

**NEWBERG AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ACTION COMMITTEE – CITY HOUSING PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 24, 2010
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Newberg City Hall
Permit Center Conference Room
414 E. First Street, Newberg, OR**

I. Open meeting. Barton Brierley opened the meeting.

II. Roll Call. Subcommittee Attendees: Rick Rogers
Cathy Stuhr
Charlie Harris
Absent members: Ken Austin, Jr
City Staff: Barton Brierley, Planning and Building Director

III. Review of Committee Meeting on February 10, 2010

The committee addressed the relationship between the Fees/Finance committee charge and this committee's charge. This committee should address how funding could be raised. The trust fund needs a steady income stream to be effective, and can't rely only on grants and occasional funding.

The committee discussed possibly using gas tax or FAU funds to pay for street improvements for affordable housing projects.

The committee also talked about using the hotel/motel tax to fund the trust fund. Current revenues are about \$90,000. 17% is dedicated to tourism. There was a concern about raising the rate.

They talked about some nominal fee on the water bill. 50 cents a month would raise about \$36,000 per year. A surcharge on the trash bill and electric bill should be investigated. All the 50 cent surcharges could add up. This could be match funds for other grants. They also could use a revolving loan fund.

IV. Housing Rehabilitation

They asked for the Housing Authority rehab person to report next time. Matching funds for volunteer housing rehabilitation would be desirable. Also would like the YCAP weatherization program people to come.

V. Housing Trust Fund

The committee looked at the Ashland housing trust model. The committee liked the model, and suggested that we develop our program based on the model. We would need to create some sort of housing commission to direct the funds. An ongoing stable income stream would be important.

They talked about the format of a housing commission. This possibly could be a small steering committee.

They need to talk about prioritization. Matching grants would be a high priority. The target could be to allocate the existing money over a period of time (5 years?) to allow development of a longer funding stream. High density rentals would be high priority. Rental rehab also would be high priority. The owner may need to commit to holding rental rates low.

The committee is supposed to return comments on the Ashland model by the end of next week.

V. Other business. None

VI. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 7:00 pm in City Hall (Permit Center Conference Room.)

VII. Adjourn: 8:25 p.m.

Approved by the Affordable Housing Action Committee – City Housing Program Subcommittee this 24th day March, 2010.



City Housing Program Subcommittee Secretary