

**Housing Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 19, 2018
5:15 P.M.
Montpelier City Hall Council Chambers**

In attendance:

Jennifer Hollar, Jim Libby, Peter Kelman, Liz Genge, Mary Hooper, Jack McCullough, Polly Nichol, Jo Troiano, Kevin Casey (staff)

Meeting Called to order at 5:15 p.m.

1. Agenda Approved
2. Opportunity for Public Comment: No Comments
3. Structure and Membership

Jack McCullough stepped down as Chair based on his recent appointment to the City Council. Jack will remain on HTF as Council Representative

Jen Hollar and Polly Nichol volunteered to be co-chairs

Jo Troiano made a motion to nominate Jen Hollar and Polly Nichol as co-chairs

Peter Kelman Seconded

HTF voted 8-0 to approve of Jen Hollar and Polly Nichol as co-chairs

Possible members including Clare Rock, Jennifer Hollar will reach out

Task Force discussed increasing membership with representation from tenants, Developers and Business Interests.

HTF decided it will reach out to some people that have expressed interest and maybe inviting relevant people for specific topical discussions

4. Discussion with Mike Miller of Planning and Community Development on Planning Commission's (PC) proposed work on the new Master Plan
 - a. Department will present overview at May 9, 2018 Council meeting and a focus will be on the City Council's position on working on the Master Plan
 - i. Is it a council goal to update the master plan?
 - ii. Is it a priority?
 - iii. Timeline for the new master plan if they charge the Department of Planning and Community Development to move forward.
 - b. What this will mean for the Housing Task Force?

- i. Planning Commission will have an All Committees Meeting so that all the members of the various boards and commissions can meet and discuss the path forward for a new master plan
 - ii. Revisit the draft chapter prepared in 2017 by Department of Planning and Community Development (Kevin to email everyone a copy after the meeting)
 - c. Housing Task Force Position:
 - i. Support the PC goal to call a meeting of all the Committees
 - ii. Work with the Planning Commission on the housing element if the City Council decides to charge the Planning Commission with reopening and rewrite the Master
- 5. Discussion of Housing Task Force Goals, Priorities, and Work Plan for 2018-2019
 - i. Presentation to City Council on Housing : History, Successes, and Moving Forward. Educate council on issues related to Housing (schedule with Bill Fraser and Mike Miller) Demonstrate Needs for Housing – Educate Council on statistics
 - ii. Sustainable Funding Source for Housing Trust Fund- Revisit the previous memos and proposals as developed by Andrew, Polly, and Jack in the Fall of 2017
 - iii. Release Survey of Housing Trust Fund Survey as prepared by Polly Nichol , possibly conduct interviews with the recipients
 - 1. Send it out from the City
 - 2. Interviews and ask for people for whom it made a difference to come out in support of First Time Homebuyer Program
 - 3. Work on demonstrating the value and effectiveness of the program
 - iv. Discuss and Actively look for ways to promote infill housing and developing duplexes
 - v. Decide on what is the next big project to support
 - 1. Sabin's Pasture?
 - 2. College Meadows?
 - 3. Other?
 - vi. Have topical Discussions with experts on the interrelationship between:
 - 1. Housing and Energy
 - 2. Housing and Transportation
 - 3. Homelessness and Shelter/Transitional Housing Needs
 - 4. Invite Another Way to speak on their work and needs
 - vii. Develop goals and tactics for the housing section of the Master Plan if requested by the Planning Commission
- 6. Legislative Report:

- a. Jen Hollar updated the HTF on the following bills working through the State House:
 - i. Lead Bill – Proposal State taking control of Lead enforcement from EPA
 - ii. Changes to the Renter Rebate Program
 - iii. Hotel Surcharge
 - iv. Rental Housing Safety Bill & Air BnB bill working through House and Senate
- 7. Other Business:
 - a. Liz Genge wanted to let the HTF know that she is working with Vermont recovery Alliance on Housing for people with Addiction and she will be bringing up some topical discussion on their work as it progresses.
 - b. Liz also mentioned that Downstreet will be sprucing up 87-89 Elm St. as part of NeighborWorks week on June 8th. All are invited to participate
 - c. It was decided that future HTF meetings will be divided between work on the big items and updates with conversations from time to time with knowledgeable individuals about specific topics.
- 8. Adjourn at 7:05 p.m.