

**CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TASK FORCE MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2015**

Present:

Council Member Kelly Allen Gray, Chair
Council Member Danny Scarth
Council Member Dennis Shingleton (Arrived at 3:34 p.m.)
Andy Taft
Barbara Holston
Lee Nicol
Perry Pillow
Alex Jimenez
Flora Brewer
Norbert White
David Zappasodi

Absent:

Glen Whitley
MaryEllen Wellbaum

Staff Present:

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
Vicki Ganske, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Ronald P. Gonzales, Assistant City Secretary
Jay Chapa, Housing & Economic Development Department Director
Otis Thornton, Homelessness Program Director
Maggie Jones, Homelessness Coordinator

I. Call to Order

At 3:05 p.m. on Monday, January 26, 2015, Chair Kelly Allen Gray called the meeting of the Supportive Housing Task Force to order in the City Manager's Conference Room 380 in the City of Fort Worth City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, Texas.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 23 and November 24, 2014.

Task Force Member Scarth made a motion, seconded by Task Force Member Pillow, to approve the October 23, 2014 and November 24, 2014, minutes of the Supportive Housing Task Force. The motion carried unanimously 11 to 0, with Task Force Members Whitley and Wellbaum absent.

III. Supportive Services in Permanent Supportive Housing.

Ms. Deirdre Brown, representing MHMR Tarrant County, provided a brief summary of supportive housing in Tarrant County. She outlined what permanent supportive housing the services look like for their clients and for many clients that work with Otis Thornton in the Directions Home Program and other grants that are through the Fort Worth Housing Authority. She identified challenges with the clients and how they build relationships with their clients, the housing authority and property managers.

IV. The Development and Operation of Mixed Income Housing, Lessons Learned.

Ms. Naomi Byrne, President, Fort Worth Housing Authority (FWHA), provided a PowerPoint briefing titled, “Guiding Principles for Developing and Operating Mixed Income Housing – What It Takes for Successful Affordable Housing Projects”. She provided background of the FWHA and then followed with definitions of key terms and added what was needed first for these programs were leaders. She continued by advising there needed to be a community that supported and trusted the vision, the ability to obtain money from multiple sources and finding a market that needed the product and maximized opportunity. She concluded her presentation with a summary of developing a plan for the program, the ideal residents who would live in the development, and the need for a sound business plan to develop successful principles of housing.

V. Permanent Supportive Housing Development Policies.

Mr. Otis Thornton commended the efforts of both Ms. Brown and Ms. Byrne and their staffs were absolutely indispensable with the success of the Directions Home program. He added that one of the things a community could do was to gather a group of people who could develop a set of criteria to determine what are the things that are needed to go into the project—the basic thresholds as property became available and opportunities related to real estate and funding were needed to go into the project.

He introduced Heather Lyons, Senior Program Manager, CSH, Inc., Portland, Oregon, provided the proposed development guidelines via conference call. Ms. Lyons outlined the proposed development guidelines for permanent supportive housing pertaining to the general guidance, target population, and design and community recommendations.

Task Force Member White suggested that staff provide a briefing on the Coordinated Assessment process if the Permanent Supportive Housing Task Force was going to endorse it and added that it also needed to be continually reviewed and evaluated. Chair Allen Gray concurred and asked staff to include the briefing at a future meeting.

VI. Draft Interim Report to the City Council.

Chair Allen Gray advised that the draft interim report to the City Council would be presented at the February 3, 2015, Pre-Council meeting scheduled to start at 3:00 p.m. She assigned Task Force Members to present various sections of the report as follows:

- Norbert White
- Council Member Shingleton
- Barbara Holston

Before concluding the meeting, Chair Allen Gray summarized the amendments to the Proposed Development Guidelines presented by Ms. Lyons as reflected below:

- General Guidance, Item 3: Add “...up to...” before “40%”
- General Guidance: Add Item 9 to state “PSH projects (or developments) should be near public transportation (per HUD Neighborhood Guidelines)
- Design Recommendations, Item 3: Delete “Ideally...”

- Community Recommendations, Item 2: Add "...public..." before "transportation"

VII. Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2015.

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Adjournment.

There being no further business for the Task Force Chair Allen Gray adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

X. Adjournment