



HOUSING TASK FORCE MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Members Present

David Dennison
Carol Brito
Kimberly Pontius
Virginia Coulter
Becky Ewing
Jeff Vitton
Jean Derenzy
Cathy Odom
Bob Long
Ron Crummel
Jim Tischler
Julie Gardner
Emilee Syrewicze
Jim Carruthers
Carol Moorman
Pat Hess
Dee Newman Wilkinson
Becky Ewing

Staff Present

Sarah Lucas
Connor Miller

A. Welcome and Introductions

B. Consideration of Agenda

V. Coulter noted that the Great Lakes Capital Fund presentation will be held at the January meeting. She suggested an agenda item regarding changes to MSHDA programs. The agenda was accepted as modified.

C. Consideration of July 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were accepted as presented.

D. County Updates

S. Lucas noted that Kalkaska County has eliminated its housing repair (CDBG) program.

E. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Update

Julie Gardner, MSHDA Outreach Specialist, and Jim Tischler, MSHDA Community Development Director, gave an update on MSHDA policies and programs. Information was released this month regarding changes to the CDBG program. Additional guidance will be forthcoming. The group discussed placemaking and MSHDA programs.

F. Depot Property Update and Discussion

Pam Doty-Nation, Habitat for Humanity, and Bill Merry, Homestretch provided an update on the proposed Depot project in the City of Traverse City. The two organizations have signed a memorandum of agreement to work together on the project, and are working with the City to finalize a purchase agreement. The project will include 20 affordable homes. Part of the property will be sold at market rate. There has been discussion and interest in a day care center that would be used by the Great Start nonprofit, but plans have not been finalized at this point.

G. Housing Task Force Communications

S. Lucas noted that the Advocacy Committee recommended changing the name of the Housing Task Force to the Housing Network. K. Pontius suggested the name "Housing Solutions Network." The group agreed to change the name to the Housing Solutions Network. S. Lucas reviewed the communications materials provided and updated that an advocacy guide would be provided at the next meeting. She added that the United Way would be providing assistance with a volunteer database for group members to use, and would attend a future meeting to discuss in more detail.

H. Roundtable Discussion and Announcements

S. Lucas stated that the Grand Vision Your Action event will be held on September 27 at 6 p.m. at the State Theatre, and will feature student videos on Grand Vision issues, including the Depot project.

I. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.