

Minutes, Housing Master Plan Sub Committee –

February 9th, 2009

Present:

Jacqui Guilette
Jack O'Sullivan
Scott Pope
Bill Regan
Bernie Folta
Peter Dezwaltowski
Ed Tinker

Bernie Folta joined the committee as an official member at this meeting.

Discussion centered around the new "Ordinance 504" for the first 30 minutes of the meeting. Bill Regan expressed concerns about the ordinance and its impetus and Bernie Folta expressed concerns about the process of introduction to the community. It was agreed that this committee would look at this further.

Discussion then moved to a draft of the chapter submitted by Scott Pope. The draft was meant only to spur discussion, not to be the "end product". Many statements were determined true at this point and moved forward. The "text and narration" of the draft was not discussed.

Methods of gaining additional data were discussed including the "Power School" package and Alan Croteau's work regarding charting types of housing in Claremont.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25

February 17th

Present:

Jacqui Guilette
Scott Pope
Alan Croteau
Jack O'Sullivan
Peter Dezwaltowski
Ed Tinker

A short presentation regarding Ordinance 504 took place with Peter giving background information regarding the ordinance. The concern about making informed commentary was raised, so to facilitate better discussion copies of the ordinance, presentations, and comments to this point were requested by the committee members so they could look things over for themselves and make their own comments based on their personal reflections.

A discussion about housing and direction was held, and it was determined that several statements remain true from the 1991 Master Plan. Discussion about TIF districts and impediments to housing purchases were also raised once again. How to balance housing and economic development was also discussed.

March 17, 2009

Present:

Jacqui Guilette

Scott Pope

Bill Regan

Jack O'Sullivan

Peter Dezwaltowski

Ed Tinker

The committee started the process of commenting on Ordinance 504 but several concerns were voiced regarding several key components of the ordinance such as changing "sanitary systems" to "City sanitary systems", and adding bonuses for "Leads Green Technology" building. Concerns also were raised about the need for a new building ordinance when the center of town has several key properties that could be better rehabilitated and renovated at a lesser cost therefore improving neighborhoods and land/housing values. There was also discussion about process and concerns about the timing of the issue as a whole, especially with a Master Plan being developed. However, the committee will provide additional comments as time ran out for this discussion item with several more comments lying on the table to be discussed.

Data was provided regarding homes in Claremont and the types of homes that are in Claremont. Discussion towards completing the chapter regarded the acquisition of data and how this could be done in a timely manner with Jacqui, Jack and Bill Regan determining a time during the week to work together to get data secured from both the realtor and school side for the report.