

**Accessible Housing Advisory
Board
Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 2nd,
2022 7:30pm-9:30 a.m.**

Pursuant to the due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Accessible Housing Advisory Board was duly held at the Sioux Falls Development Foundation Briefing Center – 200 North Phillips Avenue, Suite 101, on Wednesday, February 2, 2022.

1. Call to Order and Quorum Determination.

Board Chairman Jeff Nelson called to order the regular meeting of the Accessible Housing Advisory Board at 7:36 a.m. He welcomed everyone and thanked participants for their commitment to the AHAB and the community. Jeff indicated that this Morning's session would focus on discussions around policy recommendations for the following areas: Defining Accessible (Workforce) Housing, Home Ownership/Multi-Family, Strategic Land Acquisitions, and Neighborhood Revitalization.

Board Members in Attendance: Joan Franken, Jean Bender, Kari Benz, Jeff Nelson, Jim Schmidt, Cynthia Mickelson, Matt Tobias, Aspen Thorstenson.

Absent Board Members: Paul Kostboth, Nancy Renozya, Marshall Selberg

Attendees: Kevin Smith, Amos Abu, Al Roettger (City of Sioux Falls)
Mike Gray, (Sioux Falls Development Foundation)
Michelle Erpenbach (Sioux Falls THRIVE)

Minutes: Kari Benz, AHAB Secretary

MINUTES

Agenda Topic: Approval of Minutes of January 5th, 2022

Action Taken: Unanimous

Agenda Topic: Public Input on Non-Agenda Items (5-minute comment per individual)

Discussion:

There were no public comments

Agenda Topic: Approval of Regular Agenda

Discussion: Agenda Item number #5 was postponed to another date.

Action Taken: Unanimous

Agenda Topic: MacArthur Foundation – Grant Application funding for criminal Justice-Involved

Discussion: Amos and Kari Benz presentation an overview of the MacArthur Foundation Equitable Housing Demonstration Project Grant to address housing needs for the justice involved in our community.

They indicated that AHAB is suited to take the lead role due to its unique function and oversight in housing development in the City. In addition, the Minnehaha County Commission last week approved allowing the County to be a Fiscal Agent to draw and expand the program funds. Finally, Amos informed the Board that the grant Steering Committee for the EHDP received an overwhelming response to the letter of support requested on behalf of AHAB to complete the application.

Amos further indicated that each demonstration site will have access to a \$15M pool of PRI (Program Related Investment) capital ranging from a minimum of 1.5M to a maximum of 5M. It hopes to support the work of community partners to develop a needed housing option for this subset of homeless individuals who have high recidivism rates for incarceration and highlight the following specific goals the funding will address:

- Reduce the jail population and other justice system involvement through housing solutions that break the links between instability, homelessness, and jail use.
- **Reduce racial disparity** in outcomes among justice-involved and homeless populations served
- Implement solutions that do not raise the risk of COVID-19 infection or other adverse health outcomes due to increased use of congregate settings.
- **Capture the lessons learned** about the impact of the innovations to inform the fields of criminal justice reform and affordable housing /homelessness advocacy.
- **Foster systems change** and include meaningful engagement with community members who are justice-involved and experiencing housing instability

Kari Mentioned that the grant project duration is 24 –months, including a 6-month planning period and an 18-month implementation period. She further stated that the 6-months intensive stakeholder engagement process to help our community create a **Housing Investment Action Plan**. In addition, it's expected to describe our locally developed strategies to reduce the footprints of the criminal justice system through housing solutions:

- Develop plans that are responsive to community needs, informed by local data, and through the process of community engagement with people who have a history of cycling in and out of jail or are at-risk to do so.
- Plan should include proposed budgets for the remaining sub-awards, PRI, and evaluation.

The proposal **Steering Committee** presented the following to MacArthur Foundation on behalf of the lead applicant (AHAB) as part of the proposal requirement:

- Questionnaire answers
- Budget (for 6-month planning period only) Budget for planning period only. Total grant (including planning period) is a minimum of \$620K
- Budget Narrative
- Letters of Support with cover that contains a list of the LOS partners
- Supplemental documentation (limited to 10 pages) (optional)

Comments and questions from Board members were answered. Jeff Nelson requested that the Board is regularly apprised of progress during the stakeholder engagement process.

Action Taken: No action was required.

Agenda Topic: **Updates on Housing System Navigation Community Engagement**

Discussion: Amos gave a brief update on the stakeholder meeting held to discuss solutions to the Housing System Navigation in Sioux Falls. The follow-up meeting is expected to focus on narrow topics pertinent to addressing the partner's challenges. Michelle commented that the Stakeholder meeting helped engage in the meaningful Dialogue towards addressing the complexity of housing navigation in our community. She mentioned that one of the Housing Clinic's goals was to eventually transition the Housing Retention Specialist role to a permanent position. Michelle highlighted the work of the Housing Retention Specialist and the impact its gain since its inception.

Action Taken: No action required.

Adjournment

Jeff Nelson moved a motion to adjourn the meeting, which Aspen Thorstenson seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 09:15 a.m.

Kari Benz, Secretary