

Housing Task Force Committee
City Hall – Memorial Room
Thursday 6/16/16
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jack McCullough, Jo Ann Troiano, Polly Nichol, Morgan Brown, Mary Hooper, Laura Biren (AmeriCorps VISTA)

- 1) Meeting convened and introductions
- 2) Agenda and prior meeting minutes – all approved of agenda. Kevin Casey needs to circulate prior meeting minutes.
- 3) No public comment
- 4) Member updates:
Mary Hooper asked about Housing Task Force presentation to Council on Wednesday, June 15 2016 and how engaged the Council was. Discussion on Housing Trust Fund, Local Options Tax & \$100,000 more in pilot programs. Discussion of Economic Development Strategic Plan and how City adopted it and Housing is an essential piece of the plan. Discussed First Time Homebuyers Program and its successes – city gains \$17,000 for each kids in the school system.
Will ask City Council for FY2018 for \$88,000 to make up for cuts in addition for 1 cent for Housing over next 2 years. Discussion of asking for more than \$88,000 and have \$88,000 as fall back. Meeting set up with Housing Task Force to discuss Housing Trust Fund
- 5) Update on homelessness forum actions:
Discussed additional action steps and how to make housing a higher priority
City Council Goals and relation to Housing – should put together a Strategic Plan for Bill Fraser of how to reach these goals
Update documents – Barrier to Housing Report – Master Plan – Economic Development Strategic Plan – have next AmeriCorps VISTA focus on these updates?
Discussion on vacant lots in Montpelier and infill
Laura and Mary Hooper will meet on gathering data on Housing
Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is updating their Housing chapter
- 6) Zoning update:
Discussed public awareness piece and mixed use residential change
Check in on densities at all levels of zoning
Question of how hard to make/develop multi-families – now put back to easier (Planned Unit Development)
Raise issue of staff being cut in Planning Department
Discussed Tim Heaney at Planning Commission meeting to discuss how new draft of zoning would make development harder
Discussed how housing should be by right rather than conditional to avoid Design Review Board
Invite Tim Heaney and Mike Miller to next meeting
Build until you have a healthy 5% vacancy rate
Discussed Recreation Building status

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 21 at 5:15 PM