



**City of Falls Church - Housing Commission
MINUTES**

PURPOSE OF MEETING: *The five-member Commission is appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. The Housing Commission maintains awareness of housing needs and opportunities, including affordable housing; proposes housing policy initiatives and changes; investigates fair housing complaints and conciliates these complaints; mediates conflicts relating to the Virginia Residential Landlord & Tenant Act and offers reconciliatory services in conflicts relating to other housing laws.*

DATE OF MEETING: September 12, 2023

PLACE OF MEETING: In Person (City Hall Dogwood Room) w/ Virtual Option

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Meredith Anderson at 6:33 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT:

<p>Commission Members Meredith Anderson – Chair Jordan Hicks – Vice Chair Hannah Jordan Justine Underhill City Council Liaison Letty Hardi Staff Kayleen Mark Brenden Woodley</p>	<p>Guests Phil Duncan, Council Member (Virtual) Paul Boesen Michelle Parfett Maria Marcus Mikayla Edmunds, Student Rep Joseph Cobucci, Student Rep</p>
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1. Call to Order – Chair Meredith Anderson
 - a. Call to order at 6:33 by Chair Meredith Anderson
2. Roll Call – Chair Meredith Anderson
3. Approval of Minutes – Chair Meredith Anderson
 - a. Hanna Jordan and Mikayla Edmunds noted edits
 - b. Jordan Hicks moved to approve
 - c. Justine Underhill seconded
 - d. Motion passed
4. Public Comments – Chair Meredith Anderson

- i. No Public Attendees
- 5. Welcoming Falls Church - Paul Boesen
 - a. This is the first formal check-in since program launch
 - b. Welcoming Falls Church is a Refugee resettlement program
 - i. The hope is the program will to catalyze more action to facilitate immigrant resettlement
 - ii. Inspired by Pittsburgh
 - iii. 18 mo. partial rent subsidies to extend beyond federal 3 mo subsidy
 - c. The team held events like community engagements and book talks
 - d. 3 families have arrived so far
 - e. Brenden Woodley asked what sort of communications strategy are you using to get the word out?
 - i. Paul Boesen responded the program is still in pilot and with success they will start coordinating
 - f. Letty Hardi asked what the plan when the program runs out of the starter money
 - i. Paul Boesen responded that they will begin planning now
- 6. Quinn/Homestretch project update
 - a. Meredith Anderson said the feedback from community that we also want to have affordable units in the building
 - b. Letty Hardi suggested maybe using the \$1.9million elsewhere where we are better able to help more people who can't afford services for example at Sunrise
 - c. Justine suggested we use the interest from the \$1.9 million to buy down market rate units that way we are able to help more people instead of providing services for 2 households
 - d. Jordan Hick mentioned the goal of housing commission is to help more people attain affordable housing instead of 2 people with medical costs and we should discuss ways to use the \$1.9 million
- 7. Housing Goals
 - a. Hannah Jordan spoke on support for Unhoused populations
 - b. Brenden Woodley mentioned the Demographer's Study progress
 - i. First Draft submitted to staff for review
 - ii. The City is planning a joint review session with the Housing and Planning Commission for December 6th
- 8. Housing Update – Staff Kayleen Mark
 - a. Kayleen Mark gave update on Market rate CCAU
 - i. Merrill house agreed to 2 units
 - b. ADU Recertifications have been done
- 9. Affordable Homeownership Program Update – Staff Brenden Woodley
 - a. Brenden Woodley gave primary updates
 - i. Two closing now scheduled
 - 1. One for this week and one for the 28th
 - ii. Program Interest: Increase in online submissions from 124 to 143, total increase of 19.
 - iii. Eligible Buyers: Increase from 3 to 10(inclusive of the closings), more than triple since our last meeting

- iv. Offers have been made for 200 N Maple, however people have preferences for other units
- v. The City updated the Covenant and is preparing for the upcoming closings
- vi. The City signed the SPARC agreement with Va Housing
- vii. NHP is touring new properties including any 3 bedroom that comes on market
- viii. Marketing: The City has updated the program flyer and it will be a part of City tax correspondence
- ix. The City will send out a press release to media outlets to notify of the successful closings

10. VA Village Update – Staff Brenden Woodley

- a. Brenden Woodley gave primary updates:
 - i. Wesley and the City continue to have weekly meetings to scope out costs for the project
 - ii. The City and Wesley met with Va Housing to discuss Loan terms
 - iii. The City and Wesley are preparing to submit all loan paperwork to Va Housing
 - iv. Once this loan submission is done, a closing date can be established.
- b. HHS will update Council on Va Village at the 9/26 Council meeting
- c. HHS is Working with Wesley on CDBG application for FY23 then FY24

11. Other

- a. BW mentioned the Housing Commissioner position application was withdrawn

12. Adjourn 8:38p