# Minutes, PSH-FFI Committee Meeting

May 4, 2023

Attendees:

* Wendy Jacobs, Chair
* Russell Pierce
* Eliza Mathew
* Helen Tripp
* Monique Holsey-Hyman
* Ryan Smith
* Libby Doyle
* Gudrun Parmer
* Debra Clark Jones
* Leah Bergman
* Eric Johnson
* Colin Davis
* Ann Oshel
* Nicole Schramm-Sapyta
1. **Update on May 1 BOCC work session presentation (Russ, Wendy)**

Russ Pierce presented at the May 1 meeting of the BOCC and was allotted 1 hour for the presentation and discussion. Most commissioners were very enthusiastic and convinced of the need for this type of housing. Other speakers who vocalized support of this plan included:

* Ryan Fehrman, head of NC Coalition to End Homelessness, shared that we are rapidly losing protected housing due to 30-year protections cycling off
* Jarvis Martin, realtor who is also on the Board of Housing for New Hope, opined that this is an excellent real estate investment! There is great saving in keeping this existing facility as affordable housing rather than building new affordable housing.

On May 8th, the board is expected to formalize its support in their next regular work session.

1. **Update on May 18, City Council work session presentation (Russ)**

The county and city managers have already been in contact and requested information that both will need to formalize the agreement to grant funds to HNH to purchase this property.

We anticipate using the same strategy for the presentation as at the BOCC meeting with Russ’s presentation, supporters in the room, and letters of support from Duke and others. One particularly strong offering is that the Duke Outpatient Clinic has indicated that they would be interested in providing a clinic onsite for the property (letter obtained by Debra).

Council Member Hyman encouraged us to update the Mayor on the progress of this project, and indicated that she and other council members would like to tour the Carver Creek property.

One anticipated question is whether future purchasing decisions would always be done in such a rush as this project. Russ indicated that this is a unique situation, and would hope to have a more deliberate process in the future, but that to avoid such urgent situations, both city and county should take stock of the affordable housing properties whose 30-year protections are coming up for renewal/expiration and be prepared. Colin Davis and Leah Bergman offered to help generate such a list.

Some council members may be interested to hear about additional support from the business and private sectors. Leah offered to begin conversations with potential business partners who are interested in supporting this project.

1. **Timeline/next steps in Carver Creek Campus Due diligence, closing (Russ)**

Due diligence is set to end May 26, closing is set for June 28, but one or both of those may need to be extended due to the approval process in the County and City.

The BOCC hopes to vote on June 12 and is likely to approve funding for this.

The city has a longer process, which may not be complete until August unless expedited/rules suspended.

The county and city attorneys need to work together to formalize the inter-local agreement (ILA), split of funds, and use of ARPA funds.

1. **Discussion of May 31 Trip to Charlotte (Ann, Leah)**

The committee decided to postpone this trip due to the need to focus all efforts on the process of gaining approval and finalizing the purchase. Hoping to reschedule for August/September.

1. **Subcommittee Report Outs**

All committees were working toward the city and county approval processes!

Gudrun shared that she had recently attended a conference called “Bringing it Home” about ending homelessness, and that Charlotte has many great projects ongoing that we should emulate.

Colin shared the results of PIT counts in recent years:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Total homeless | Unsheltered  |
| 2020 (pre-pandemic) |  | 77 (mostly single men of color with SUD) |
| 2022 | 459 (high-water mark) | 144 |
| 2023 | 375 (back to normal) | 158 (includes more families than ever before) |

**Next meeting will be June 1, 2023, 8:30am via Teams**