

City of Valdosta Fair Housing Committee

Monthly Meeting - Minutes

Thursday, January 10, 2013 – 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

City of Valdosta -City Hall Annex, Multi-Purpose Room

Members Present:

Pastor David Adams, Rachel Bradley, Dr. Cynthia Scurry-Brooklin, Seth Brown, Clay Hadsock, Will Kemp, Bill Love, Kelly Strozier, Rebecca Taylor, Herbert Williams

City Staff Present: Mara Register and Vanassa Flucas

The meeting was called to order by Kelly Strozier at 1:31 pm.

Pastor Adams asked the committee if they had a problem with starting our meetings with an invocation. The committee agreed and Pastor Adams said a prayer for the committee and the work they must contemplate and complete on behalf of the citizens of Valdosta.

The committee was informed that Mr. Gilleylan (J Quad Planning) was unable to make this meeting via video conference and asked if this meeting was still desired by the committee. The committee agreed that they would still like to have the video conference call with Mr. Gilleylan, and the sooner it could be scheduled the better. Staff stated they would try to schedule the video conference call for our next scheduled meeting on February 14th. Committee members were asked to compose their questions for Mr. Gilleylan and have them forwarded to staff by January 25th. This will give Mr. Gilleylan and opportunity to gather any necessary information to answer the committee's questions fully.

K. Strozier presented the committee activity timeline for member input. According to the timeline, the video conference with Mr. Gilleylan would occur during our February meeting, potential survey questions will be collected for the next survey subcommittee before we meet again, the administration of the survey and focus groups will be completed by the end of March, and the survey data and review would be scheduled for the end of April. Committee members have been asked to complete some "homework" by submitting all questions for the video conference call and neighborhood assessment survey by the close of business on January 25, 2013.

A Community Needs Assessment Guide created by the Utah State University was presented to the committee as an example of how we could complete our neighborhood assessment with limited resources. The information was given to the committee members to take with them to look over the material when time allowed. The chair introduced the Survey Subcommittee members: Rachel Bradley, Pastor Adams, Seth Brown, Robert Jefferson and Kelly Strozier. The Survey Subcommittee will schedule to meet before our next full committee meeting.

R. Bradley asked if we would have an opportunity to speak directly to HUD representatives regarding issues facing this community and staff assured the committee when and if they have a desire to speak with our HUD representatives; arrangements can be made for additional conference calls.

There was no public participation for this meeting.

Without any further discussion among the committee members, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 pm.