

City of Valdosta Fair Housing Committee

Monthly Meeting - Minutes

Wednesday, October 11, 2012 – 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

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

Members Present:

Pastor David Adams, Dr. Cynthia Scurry-Brooklin, Seth Brown, Clay Hadsock, Brooke Jaramillo, Robert Jefferson, 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 1:36 pm.

The committee reviewed and accepted the minutes from the August 29th and September 13th committee meetings.

Due to the absence of Rachel Bradley who volunteered to chair the survey subcommittee, the committee chose to place the community survey agenda item on hold. The survey subcommittee will make arrangements to meet when Ms. Bradley is available and will include additional committee members who have voiced an interest in working in this area (Pastor Adams, Seth Brown and Robert Jefferson). The entire committee was asked to think about the ways in which they would like to address the survey portion of its community outreach.

Mara Register presented some information to the committee concerning Dr. Robert Yehl and the Political Science Department at Valdosta State University. Dr. Yehl has expressed an interest in assisting the committee with developing a community survey and coordinating the data collected. The committee will be presented additional information on the role Dr. Yehl and VSU could contribute to our efforts in a future committee meeting.

It was suggested by the committee to include the public schools (Valdosta City and Lowndes County) in the organizational presentations to represent the socioeconomic area of the AI. The committee wished to have information on how the primary schools through secondary schools are addressing and the services they provide for the impediments presented in this category.

Ms. Jane Osborn, retired social worker, commented during the public participation period for this meeting. Her comments surrounded her desire to find the resources necessary to reinstitute programs such as the Georgia 211 Program with the United Way, which was very helpful with communication in the community. Suggestions were made to make information accessible to the public via the City's website or other public locations.

Without any further discussion among the committee members, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.