

# Affordable Housing Committee

March 1, 2022, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

30 Valley Street Meeting Room/engage.buncombecounty.org

# MINUTES

The meeting was held in person, with the public invited to attend in person or virtually. The public was able to view the meeting via engage.buncombecounty.org.

## **Committee Members Present**

Amanda Edwards, Brownie Newman, Parker Sloan

## **County Staff Present**

Jennifer Barnette, Matthew Cable, Kassi Day, Brandon Freeman, William High, John Hudson, James Shelton, Kirby Rucker, Max Taintor, Sybil Tate, and Don Warn.

## Call to Order & Welcome

• Chairman Newman called the meeting to order at 1:05.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

• Commissioner Sloan motioned to approve the minutes from the February 1 & 15, 2022 meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

- FY 2023 Affordable Housing Services Program Applications Overview Matthew Cable
  No action was taken by the committee.
- March 15 Board of Commissioners Presentation; Homelessness Goal Setting Sybil Tate
  - Comm. Sloan motioned for a goal of 200 units to support housing for units for individuals with less than 30% AMI. Comm. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - The committee tabled a discussion on the goal for a specific number of unsheltered/unhoused units.
- Property Acquisition for Affordable Housing Recovery Funds Application Chairman Newman
  - Chair Newman made a motion to recommend to give consideration to the County Commissioners to give direction to the staff in support of the proposal staff develop an application for ARPA to identify and purchase of sites the County to use for affordable housing. The recommendation would not preapprove any amount of funding for this project, but instead approving up to \$7 million of these funds to identify sites for the Commissioners to approve on a case by case basis. These sites would be used in support of the proposed affordable housing goals, but with the particular prioritization for the larger tax credit project sites. The evaluation of these sites would be within 6 months of the approval of the application in order to identify further sites. Comm. Edwards seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Next Steps**

The committee agreed to schedule an additional meeting on Wednesday, April 27.

#### Announcements

#### **Public Comment**

No public comment was received prior to the meeting. No online comment was received.



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Comment was received from Andy Barnett from Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity, and Margie Bukowski from Weaver Cooke.

# Adjourn

• Chairman Newman adjourned the meeting at 2:53.

# Documents

- Presentations
- Draft Minutes