

CITY OF SILVERTON
AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE MINUTES

Zoom Web Conference Platform

January 19, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Palmer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The task force members and staff were present through the virtual meeting platform Zoom. Mayor Palmer explained the meeting is being held through Zoom due to House Bill 4212.

Present	Excused	
X		Kyle Palmer
X		Dana Smith
X		Jason Freilinger
	X	Sarah DeSantis
X		Hilary Dumitrescu
X		Kari Johnsen
	X	Bonnie Logan
X		Laurie Chadwick
X		Sarah White
X		David Goldblatt
X		Gene Oster
X		Terry Caster (<i>arrived at 8:38 am</i>)
X		Rebecca Delmar (<i>arrived at 8:33 am</i>)

Staff Present: Community Development Director, Jason Gottgetreu and Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk, Angela Speier

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 15, 2020. Member Dumitrescu seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (10-0).

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION

4.1 Recap of Housing Virtual Open House

Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu said the City hosted a Housing Virtual Open House on January 14, 2021. The Open House was part of the consultant led development code updates to implement House Bill 2001. There were 21 attendees that watched the presentation and participated in the meeting. He noted most of the questions and comments received were positive. A number of the questions were related to parking issues, as well as what the City could and could not do with regard to design standards and the timeline of the legislation. The consultants also developed a survey as a tool to receive feedback. The survey is open until the end of January and he encouraged members to share the link with their contacts. Member Smith said she liked the visuals that were used in the Open House presentation and thought they were helpful in defining what missing middle housing looks like. Director Gottgetreu said another Open House will be scheduled in March to review the draft standards.

Chair Palmer asked how the survey is being distributed to the community and the Task Force discussed ways to ensure it is available to all audiences.

4.2 Public Outreach and Education as it Relates to Single Family Zoning

Member Kari Johnsen referred to the draft Communications Strategy document that was included in the packet. She explained one of the outreach tools listed in the strategy is to go door-to-door. This is something that Habitat has done in the past in the neighborhoods where they are building and they plan to do this again for their upcoming Silverton project near Pine Street and Schemmel Lane. Member Johnsen asked if the Task Force had any thoughts on including other areas of Silverton in the outreach efforts and said Habitat would welcome volunteers to help get the information out. Members White and Dumitrescu said Sheltering Silverton has a great volunteer base that would like to help with outreach efforts. Other members volunteered to help with the distribution of materials and canvassing neighborhoods. Member Dumitrescu suggested using a videographer to help tell the story of Silverton's need for affordable housing in a different way. Member Delmar suggested using the same videographer to help tell the individual stories that were discussed at the last meeting as well. Member Johnsen said Habitat would like to start canvassing in February. Members discussed other tools to get messaging out, including a direct mailer and an infographic door hanger. Member Johnsen said Habitat will continue to develop materials for going door-to-door and will look into the cost of doing a direct mailer. Member White asked if the direct mailer would be specific to the Habitat build or would it be more focused on the need for affordable housing in general. Member Johnsen said the Habitat Board is meeting tonight to discuss the outreach efforts and noted even more general affordable housing messages would benefit the organization.

Member White reminded the Task Force at the last meeting they discussed setting up a meeting with the Planning Commission and asked if that has been scheduled. Director Gottgetreu recommended scheduling a Work Session with the Planning Commission prior to their regular meeting on February 9, 2021. Discussion ensued on what the Task Force would like to present to the Planning Commission and who would be the best person to deliver the message. Member Dumitrescu stressed the message to the public should be the same message given to the Planning Commission. Director Gottgetreu explained where the Planning Commission is in the code development process and noted they spent several hours in public meetings reviewing the Housing Needs Analysis. The Commission is currently looking at allowing duplexes, tri-plexes, four-plexes, and cottages in the R-1 Zone. They are also looking at including accessory dwelling units (ADUs) into their scope as a tool to develop more affordable housing in Silverton. Members discussed the need to address comments made by the Planning Commissioners related to infrastructure issues with additional growth. Member Caster reported there are only nine houses for sale in Silverton currently which is really low. The Task Force would like to move forward with scheduling a joint work session with the Planning Commission on February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Member Johnsen agreed to lead the discussion with the Planning Commission. Member White said some of the racial justice groups in the community have tuned into the conversations regarding affordable housing and they are allies in wanting to make the community more inclusive. Members from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force have been sharing messages about affordable housing on social media and noted the Surge group would also be a good body to collaborate with.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Member Freilinger made a motion to adjourn and Chair Palmer adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/Angela Speier, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk