

Metropolitan Affordable Housing Trust Fund Commission Meeting

December 18, 2015

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Present Commissioners—Jemison, Nixon, Sledge, and Bodenhamer

Staff—Harris, Cole; Metro Legal—Murray; Consultants—Johnson, Lawrence; MDHA—Gilligan, Harbison, Harrell

Chair Jemison called the meeting to order.

The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the December 10, 2015 meeting. There was no old business to discuss.

Commission Action to consider motion to amend Commission’s recommendations for Round 2 funding
Commissioners discussed why the Commission was created which is to provide a flexible and separate funding source for additional affordable housing units in Metro. If the Commission approves Scenario A, MDHA would solicit another round of proposals for the HOME allocation. MDHA has dedicated \$1M annually to the Barnes Fund. Additional funds could be added if needed. The Consolidated Plan process outlined uses for the HOME funding and homebuyer activities were capped at a certain amount, which is why MDHA is requesting for the Commission to fund additional homebuyer activities.

Calls were received from various nonprofit organizations concerned about the process and included discussion around separating the Barnes fund from MDHA. The request could also set a precedent by deviating from the intent of the Barnes fund or changing the priority of the fund, which is to provide housing opportunities to very low income households.

Overall, the proposal (Scenario B) provides for additional housing units and speaks to the integrity of the Commission, however, parameters must be set in future rounds to avoid confusion and ensure transparency.

Nixon moved to amend the Commission’s previous recommendation by approving MDHA’s Scenario B proposal with an understanding that a proposal deviating from the Commission’s award of funds will not be up for consideration in future rounds. CM Sledge seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be a study session on January 27th from 1-4 PM to discuss inclusionary housing report recommendations, the separation of funding from federal dollars, the application process, and technical assistance/nonprofit capacity building.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.