

Planning & Sustainability • City of Northampton

resilience | regeneration | design | conservation | placemaking | mobility | accessibility | community development | historic | zoning | GIS | agriculture

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Housing Partnership
5:30 PM, Monday June 7th, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Members

Rev. Todd Weir, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Edgardo Cancel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hannah Shaffer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gordon Shaw, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Junno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sara Howard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Richard Abuza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ace Tayloe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	
Julio Alves	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Reis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff: Keith Benoit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Notice that the meeting is being recorded.
2. Introductions & public comment. Megan Paik from the Human Rights Commission gave public comment regarding writing a letter commemorating Juneteenth as a state holiday for the first year and recognizing the 100 year anniversary of the Tulsa massacre. Megan Paik also asked if there were any discussions regarding reparations happening and would the Housing Partnership be willing to discuss. Kristen Elde also recognized the excitement of starting the conversation regarding the racial injustice in the City. Megan Paik will bring recommendations to the Housing Partnership that are relevant.
3. The Partnership approved the May 3, 2021 minutes unanimously upon motion by Jim Reis and seconded by Carmen Junno.
4. Keith Benoit gave an update from the two most recent zoning amendments have passed, such as 20.181 Ordinance Relative to Affordable Housing and 21.189 Ordinance to Create Incentive for Smaller Houses. One ordinance was reported that will be discussed at this evenings City Council meeting, 21.218 Ordinance to Amend Zero Lot Line. Some discussion ensued regarding the recent developments and conversation in the op-eds happening.
5. Conversation with the Youth Partnership. Noah Kassis gave an intro about the Youth Partnership and their focus on housing. Lucas Laing gave presentation on Universal Multi-Family housing to create more justice within the City. Bix gave demographic and legal characteristics of Northampton. Elijah Bacal gave updates on environmental justice and how housing can play a role.
6. Jim Reis gave an update from the Small Market FMR Subcommittee meeting



and gave a brief overview of how HUD calculates the FMR rate. Jim Reis gave some background statistics on how many people were able to lease-up in Northampton. The subcommittee recommended a having a discussion whether a political course of action to work with the members of the Senate to change is in order.

7. Todd Weir gave an update on the home rule petition and the City Council's process on all of their other ordinances. The City Solicitor said that the City Council must vote on all ordinances all at once, so there is some work to be done before they move forward.
8. For Next Meeting:
 - Keith Benoit will follow up with Donna Cabana on CPC application for fall meeting
 - Keith Benoit will follow up with person planning the Resiliency Hub to talk about housing navigator
 - Keith Benoit will get updates on Airbnb total revenue and what can be spent
 - Keith Benoit will ask Carolyn Misch or Wayne Feiden to respond to some criticism regarding recent zoning amendments
 - Next meeting will meet July 12
9. Meeting ended a motion by Carmen Junno and seconded by Gordon Shaw at 7:03 PM.