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MINUTES

HOUSING RESOURCES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 4, 1967

Members of the Housing Resources Committee Executive Group met on Thursday, May 4, 1967, at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall. The following members were present:

Mr. Dale Clark, Public Information Panel
Dean William S. Jackson, Social Problems Panel
Mr. J. E. Land, Land Acquisition Panel
Mr. Archer D. Smith, III, Legal Panel
Mr. Edwin L. Sterne, Public Housing Panel
Mr. Hall Ware, Finance and Non-Profit Funds Panel
Mr. John C. Wilson, Finance and Non-Profit Funds Panel
Mr. Robert Winn, Construction and Design Panel

The Business Participation Panel was not represented at the meeting.

Col. Malcolm Jones presided in the Chairman's absence. Col. Jones explained that this was the second in a series of monthly meetings designed to bring the Committee members up to date on the progress of the program. He then asked each of the panel representatives to make a report on the action taken by their respective panels.

Finance and Non-Profit Funds Panel - Mr. Wilson and Mr. Ware explained that the Committee is actively engaged in developing a local funding group to provide "seed" money to promote low cost housing. Preliminary discussions have been held and material from other such organizations is being reviewed.

Social Problems Panel - Dean Jackson reported that this panel has met to organize their group and has discussed some of the broad areas to be encompassed by the panel. Two main decisions came out of this meeting:

1. The panel should have representation from the community itself and, therefore, two new members have been added. They are: Dr. Charles F. Schwab, President, Protestant Welfare and Social Services, Inc., and Mr. Erwin Stevens, Chairman, Citizens Central Advisory Committee, Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.
2. The panel felt it would be helpful to develop some guidelines as to what is anticipated as goals for adequate living.

Dean Jackson added that one of his classes is presently conducting a survey of the attitudes of families living in the vicinity of the Bedford-Pine area to be completed by the end of this month. If anything helpful comes out of the study it will be shared with the Committee.

Land Acquisition Panel - Mr. Land reported that this panel is still in the process of thoroughly organizing. However, as a result of the first meeting it was decided that two or three real estate men would be added to the group and this is in process at present. Meetings are planned with the Atlanta Housing Authority and the Federal Housing Administration.

Construction and Design Panel - Mr. Winn reported that three architects have been obtained to work with the panel in carrying out its functions. The panel members have organized and have scheduled regular monthly meetings and are beginning to plan their program.

Legal Panel - Mr. Smith, representing Mr. Weltner, stated that two attorneys have been added to assist in the work of the panel. They are: Mr. Archer D. Smith, III, Attorney, Harmon & Thackston, and Mr. Norman L. Underwood, Attorney, Sanders, Hester & Holley. The panel members are working in three areas at the present time:

1. Research and examination of the laws dealing with FHA housing, particularly the requisites for obtaining FHA grants and loans;
2. Study of complaints and problems concerning the enforcement of the Housing Code; and
3. Research into the part of the law particularly concerned with the Grant and Loan Program (for rehabilitation of sub-standard housing) being restricted to Urban Renewal and Code Enforcement areas.

Public Housing Panel - Mr. Sterne reported that this panel has met once and at that meeting the members were generally acquainted with what is going on in public housing. Mr. Sterne told the group of many of the programs the Housing Authority is presently engaged in.

Public Information Panel - Mr. Clark reported that the panel members have met and that he also met with Col. Jones and Mr. Alexander for a briefing on the overall program. He stated that his concept of this panel's function is one of informing the general public and to report fully through the news media what the Committee is doing, and that until some definite action is taken by the Committee and the function of the Committee is a little better focused, this panel will not be able to really move forward on their program.

Col. Jones then distributed up-to-date copies of the Inventory of the various housing projects which have been proposed and provided members of the press with a summary of this report. He reviewed the summary with the committee and discussed in detail some of the problems the committee is encountering in getting these projects underway. The major problems include:

1. Attitude of home owners toward apartment units;
2. Zoning; and
3. Determination of the location of housing (HUD prefers that such housing not be located in areas of racial concentration).

The group discussed possible solutions to these problems but no positive decisions were reached.

Col. Jones also told the group of a meeting Mr. Alexander has requested for a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen for the purpose of inviting builders and developers to appear before them to discuss their problems from their points of view. He added that it would be helpful to have some members of the Executive Group at this meeting also. Mr. Land of the Land Acquisition Panel said that his panel would definitely be represented at the meeting.

Col. Jones requested each of the panels to elect permanent Chairmen and Vice Chairmen as soon as possible, if they have not already done so, and to advise him who has been elected.

Mr. Clark told the Executive Group members that his panel (Public Information) is always open to committee members for any suggestions or recommendations as to how the public information program can help further the goals of the Committee. He also recommended to Col. Jones that the information contained in the summary of the problem areas be made available to the press. Col. Jones agreed with Mr. Clark and advised that he would take up this matter with Mr. Alexander.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a. m.

Respectfully submitted,



Malcolm D. Jones
Supervisor of Inspection Services