**Affordable Housing Advisory Committee**

**St. Johns County, Florida**

**Regular Meeting**

October 18, 2023

Minutes

The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) of St. Johns County met at 3:00 pm at the Health & Human Services Center, in the Muscovy Conference room, at 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair, Alex Mansur.

**Members Present:**

Greg Burke - Residential Home Builder

Orville Dothage - Banking/Mortgage Banking Industry

Bill Lazar - Citizen actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing

Alex Mansur - Citizen actively engaged in areas of labor in home building

Michael O’Donnell - HFA Chair/Citizen actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons

Elvis Pierre - Citizen actively serving on local planning agency

Karl Vierck - Citizen actively engaged as a Real Estate Developer

**Members Absent:**

Roy Alaimo - Locally elected official

Jay Braxton - St. Johns County Resident

Steve Ladrido - Citizen representing employers within St. Johns County

Harry Maxwell - Citizen actively engaged as a for-profit provider of affordable housing

Lindsey Rodea - Essential Service Personnel

**Guests Present:**

Joe Cone - Assistant Director, Health and Human Services

Mary Garcia - Support Staff, Social Services

Michelle Lawlor - Support Staff, Housing & Community Development

Amy Ring - Special Projects Manager, Growth Management

Sarah Taylor - Assistant County Administrator

Kelsey Vankirk - Support Staff, Housing & Community Development

Notices regarding the meeting were sent to all members. No press was in attendance.

1. **Introduction of AHAC Members and SJC Staff:** Committee members and County staff were acknowledged and a quorum was present.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Bill Lazar to approve minutes of the September, 2023, meeting; motion seconded by Karl Vierck. **The motion passed unanimously**.
2. **Administrators’ Report:** Joe Cone reported that on December 7th, Dominium will be presenting their proposed workforce housing community, Preserve at Ward’s Creek, to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for those interested in attending. Mr. Cone stated the ribbon cutting for Victoria Crossing will be held on October 25th at 11am and he said staff will send out invitations to the Committee. Mr. Cone encouraged all the members to attend, if possible. A copy of the presentation Mr. Cone gave to the Northeast Regional Planning Council leadership class in early October was provided to the Committee. Mr. Cone said he spoke to the Council and elected officials for 30 minutes about affordable housing successes in St. Johns County and said he received very positive feedback. Mr. Cone said neighboring counties have taken some of St. Johns successes and implemented similar programs. At the request of some of the Committee, Bill Lazar said he would share with staff the link to the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council’s website for distribution.
3. **Annual Report:** County staff presented a second draft of the annual report to the Committee for discussion. The Committee made a few changes to the draft, including the addition of the link to Florida Housing Finance Committee’s income eligibility chart. A motion was made by Karl Vierck to approve the final draft with changes as discussed, and seconded by Greg Burke. **The motion passed unanimously**. The Committee discussed the PowerPoint presentation that will be given at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on December 19th. Mr. Cone suggested that the Committee build their PowerPoint on the new County template and advised that staff will email to Mr. Mansur and Mr. Lazar.

5. **Vice-Chair election:** Motion was made by Greg Burke to re-elect Bill Lazar for the Vice-Chair position; motion was seconded by Alex Mansur. **The motion passed** **unanimously**.

6. **2024 Meeting schedule**: Motion was made by Karl Vierck to approve the 2024 AHAC meeting schedule as presented by staff; motion was seconded by Bill Lazar. **The motion**

**passed unanimously**.

7. **Public Comment**: None

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.