FLAGLER COUNTY
AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Mullins, Sandra Shank, Thomas Stauffacher, Rick Belhumeur, Denise Santa Maria, Dorothy Sperber, Carmen Bongiovanni

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tammy Yorke, Jay Roberts, Diana Seydlorsky, Tammi Marquis

EXCUSED ABSENT: Ralston Reodica, Devrie Paradowski

STAFF PRESENT: Ralston Reodica, Devrie Paradowski

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: Pastor Sims Jones, Trish Giaccone, Ida Sue Guidry

1. **Call to Order:** Sandra Shank called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

2. Vote on ordinance draft replaced second item on the agenda due to committee member’s schedule. Ralston presented the amended ordinance for AHAC defining criminal history and changing “to an appointed board” to “to an appointed designee. Chair asked for discussion and there was none.

   **A MOTION was made by Rick Belhumeur and SECONDED by Carmen Bongiovanni to approve the draft ordinance 90-11.**

   **MOTION carried unanimously.**

3. **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

   **A MOTION was made by Rick Belhumeur and SECONDED by Carmen Bongiovanni to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2019 meeting.**

   **MOTION carried unanimously.**

4. **Legislative Advocacy**
   a. Carmen visited Representative Renner at the Realtors’ Board and invited him to AHAC. Representative Renner was receptive.

   **TASK: Members asked staff to contact Representative Renner to invite him to the November AHAC meeting. Carmen suggested staff reference Carmen in the invite.**

   b. Sandra asked AHAC members to invite many people to this meeting to heighten awareness and advocacy.

5. **Housing for All Coalition Affordable Housing Campaign:**
   a. Ralston discussed form panel and passed out draft flyer for the event.
b. Commissioner Mullins invited Sandra to discuss the event on WNZF, “Live, Shop, Play.”

**TASK:** Commissioner Mullins asked staff to get flyer to him ASAP, to promote it.

c. Sandra discussed the fact that there were several sponsors to help with food for the crowd, and Commissioner Mullins offered to add a sponsorship of $50 to complete the goal of $250.

6. **AHAC Roles and Responsibilities and Training**

a. Sandra asked AHAC members to register for the November 4th webinar offered by the Florida Housing Coalition beginning at 2 pm that day.

**TASK:** Sandra asked staff to email AHAC members the link to webinar registration

7. **Public Comments**

a. Trish Giaccone, Executive Director of the Family Life Center urged AHAC to consider revising the suggested fair housing ordinance to include domestic violence victims as a protected class. She said that Miami-Dade and Broward Counties have already set a precedent by adding this protection in their ordinances. She says that having no protection for the victims presents a higher risk for not only the victims but the community at-large than protecting them. She said she wished she had known the AHAC was discussing this and that she would have provided her input at the onset of these conversations, as AHAC members discussed the ongoing efforts to draft this ordinance for several months. Trish reiterated the fact that the ordinance already offers protections for people with criminal histories and she implored AHAC to take the time to protect victims of domestic violence as well.

Commissioner Mullins offered the fact that, during discussions, members of AHAC noted that landlords need to consider the ability of tenants to engage in peaceful enjoyment of their property, and that victims may have perpetrators who stalk or create issues, invited back onto the premise.

Trish adamantly contended that victims generally do not invite the perpetrators back to their properties and that protections for victims do not preclude the viable act of holding the perpetrator accountable for his or her actions by calling law enforcement or any other legal means prevent that perpetrator from causing disturbances, not the victim.

Conversation ensued about the length of time AHAC had arrived at the current draft and Ralston reminded them, “This is an opportunity,” and that “We have to do our due diligence to get it right.”

b. Pastor Sims Jones noted that he recalled previous conversations from AHAC on this issue in which the members considered the fact that women do not fight back and therefore invite perpetrators back. He suggested education targeting property owners.

c. Sandra suggested the Homes for All public forum could address domestic violence.
8. **Other Business: Disaster Housing Plan**

   a. Pastor Sims Jones said he was interested in working on the disaster plan. Sandra confirmed that non-AHAC member can be a part of it.

   b. Sandra suggested advertising the sub-committee publicly.

   c. New ordinance will tentatively go before board November 19th. It must be advertised as a public meeting.

9. **Adjourn**

   A **MOTION** was made by Rick Belhumeur and **SECONDED** by Stauffacher to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 am.

   **MOTION** carried unanimously.