

Housing Committee Notes | S3 Housing Connect Meeting, 10/10/2019

Attendance: Bob Hughes, Gayle Johnson, Patricia Hawes, Dick Poletti, Rachel Picard, Dave Whittaker

- Committee looked over 2019-2020 plan and approved the proposed objectives
- What is the definition of affordable housing?
No more than 30% of total income should go towards paying for housing. A household is housing cost burdened if they spend more than 30% of total income on housing
- Sanford Housing Authority Units
 - The base pay for a unit is \$50, then utility expenses are deducted from that price. Ex.- A person might wind up paying \$18 a month for a unit
 - The waiting list for a unit might be three years or longer, as of now
 - RAD Program- Existing units are being remodeled. People who were living in them have been displaced to other units. Those people will have a voucher with the choice to move back in when the remodel is over
 - Since people who lived in those units are displaced into empty units, the waiting list for SHA housing has been paused. New people aren't able to move into any SHA properties while renovation is happening. This is heavily impacting our local homelessness issue.
 - The RAD system is similar to Section 8 housing in that they both use vouchers. Housing Authority clients have to use their vouchers within a certain complex, but can move to a different place after one year
 - HUD determines the amount of affordable housing units needed for our area. The properties are owned by Sanford Housing Authority, but HUD regulates the units.
 - There are roughly 149 units in Sanford for the disabled and elderly
- Tiny Homes
 - What's the role of tiny homes in Fayetteville and other communities? Could we do this in Sanford?
 - Why would this be allowed now when it hasn't been allowed in the past? What's the difference between a real tiny home and a shed outfitted to serve as a home? (State Building Code Constraints)
- Landlords
 - Do we have a list of landlords who are willing to help us? Jefferey Rawlings has a list of landlords, but it's been hard to recruit new ones. A lot of them think, "Why would I donate my space to people experiencing homelessness when people are desperate for housing and willing to pay big bucks?"
 - We could consider purchasing old buildings and making new units, but we would have to have a contract with the homeowner that they won't sell the property once it has been revamped
 - Garden St. units?

Rachel will reach out to the old Housing Committee members and invite them to our next meeting. Housing Committee meetings will be held on the **4th Tuesday of each month at 3 PM.** **The next meeting of Housing Committee will be October 22nd at 3 PM in the Buggy Building's Chatham Street Conference Room, second floor.**