

Northfield Affordable Housing Task Force

MINUTES, March 7, 2017 Meeting

Attending: Dayna Norvold, Northfield HRA and Rice County Habitat for Humanity

Janine Atchison, City of Northfield

Sandi Gerdes, Laura Baker Services

Jim Blaha, Northfield Community Action Center

Richard Schulte, Northfield Planning Commission

Jonathan Davis, St. John's Lutheran Church

Leah Hall, Three Rivers Community Action

Jenny Larson, Three Rivers Community Action

Scott Wopata, Northfield Union of Youth

Carol Gengenbach, Community Action Center

Shelley Holden, Northfield Retirement Community

Chris Heineman, City of Northfield

Allan Cox, Human Capital Development Foundation

Mar Valdecantos, Northfield Human Rights Commission

Jayne Hager Dee, Northfield HRA and Northfield Community Action Center

Thanks to Laura Baker Services for hosting the meeting.

Before the Planning/Priority Session conducted by Three Rivers Community Action, a meeting was held and the following reports were given:

- Janine Atchison conducted some research into acquiring FEMA trailers. Most are contaminated because they have been used for emergency housing during federal disasters. As a result, many are not to be used for human habitation. Information is hard to find. What about unused trailers? Who are the manufacturers? Must they be purchased in large lots? What is the price? What about having a manufactured housing business manufacture some to our specifications?
- Richard Schulte reported that the former convent at St. Dominic's is not available. The church has potential uses for the property. There is a home near the church that is for sale but the church is not in a position to purchase it. But no one knows what condition that house is in.
- Dayna Norvold reported that Lutheran Social Services are very engaged in youth homeless issues. They are willing to come to Northfield to frame the youth homeless issue. Scott Wopata has been connected with them.
- The Community Action Center (Jim Blaha) is looking at opportunities to partner with the Union of Youth and/or the Alternative Learning Center to resolve youth homelessness in Northfield.

Jenny Larson and Leah Hall from Three Rivers Community Action conducted a Priority Setting Session with the group. Their report is attached.

Submitted by Jayne Hager Dee