



# SCIT HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Minutes 2/12/2020

### Members Present:

Dayna Johansen  
Fanella Poola  
Vickie Camp  
Dani Sineway  
Zach Gauger

### Staff Present:

Andrew Wagner, Administrative Assistant  
  
Rosalie Maloney, absent due to family emergency

**Called to order:** at 5:20 PM by Dayna Johansen, Chairperson

### **Roll Call:**

- Dayna Johansen – Present
- Fanella Poola – Present
- Dani Sineway – Present
- Vicki Camp – Present
- Zach Gauger – Present

### **Moment of silence:**

### Agenda:

On a motion duly made by Fanella Poola, seconded by Zach Gauger it was moved to approve the agenda with the addition of #5 Tenant Pet Policy. 5 for, motion carried.

### Approval of Minutes:

On a motion duly made by Dayna Johansen seconded by Dani Sineway, it was moved to approve the minutes from January. 5 for, motion carried.

### New Business

#### 1. Tenant Complaint

- The AC reviewed a written complaint submitted by a tenant.
- DJ: After reviewing the Bylaws, Dayna discovered “cousins” are not considered an immediate family member; therefore Dayna felt comfortable providing input on the concern and making a vote (if needed). The other committee members agreed.
- The AC requested Andrew, who was present at the time the incident occurred, to provide insight based on his observation of what transpired that day.
- DJ: I am trying to understand the direction of the letter. The letter is not really requesting us or Housing to do anything. It seems like the letter is just providing feedback about a situation. We can understand some of the frustration from the tenant’s perspective based on the letter stating please see Kathy for further assistance.

Many tenants do not realize the Housing staff is cross-trained to help out with different needs.

- The AC recommends Andrew write a letter to the complainant stating the AC reviewed and discussed her concern. The AC understands tenant's frustration with the letter stating "please see Kathy." Inform tenant the Administrative Assistant is cross-trained, and let her know Rosalie did in fact have a conversation with the staff involved. Finally the letter should thank the tenant for bringing this to our attention.
- Once the letter is complete; the Manager and the AC will review it before it's mailed to the tenant.

## 2. **Brochure and news article**

- The AC reviewed the brochure entitled "SCIT Housing Department." The brochure identifies: benefits of the NAHASDA grant, program statistics, community betterment projects, and an excerpt from USC 4101.
- The Housing Manager wants to use the brochure as a starting point for an article to be published in the *Tribal Observer*. The goal of the article is to provide information about how the Housing program is funded and how it operates. Community members are often confused about the program and this lack of information causes misconceptions and misunderstandings.
- FP: This would be a good way to understand what the program is about and what it is for.
- ZG: This would be a great way to eliminate any confusion. This is a great idea.
- AC members agreed to help out with the article in any way possible.

## **Observer Article:**

On a motion duly made by Fanella Poola, seconded by Zach Gauger it was moved to support the Tribal Observer article showcasing what the department is about. 5 for, motion carried.

## **Tribal Observer for Tenants**

- The Manager is requesting feedback on offering the *Tribal Observer* to tenants.
- The first option: The Tribal Observer offers yearly subscriptions at \$30. This cost covers the print and mailing cost and is mailed directly to the individual or household at a specific address. The cost of 55 subscriptions @ \$30 = \$1650.00 annually.
- The second option: The Tribal Observer could make 55 additional newspapers and deliver them to the Housing Department each month. The maintenance staff would distributed them to tenants. \$55 newspapers @ 12 months = \$660.00
- FP: Some tenants would be interested. It would be more economical to have Housing deliver them than pay the postage. No reason to waste paper, if tenants don't want it. We need to see who would be interested in receiving the paper.
- DS: Tenants do have access to e-mail and can view the Observer online.
- DJ: We need to create a process if they want to "Opt in to it". ***It would be a presumed NO, unless we hear from you.***

## **Survey tenant for Observer subscription**

On a motion duly made by Dayna Johansen, seconded by Fanella Poola it was moved to create a Tribal Observer interest letter and send it out to tenants. 5 for, motion carried.

### 3. **Housing Metrics**

- Andrew handed out the 2019 Metrics to all AC. No personal or identifying information is contained in the metrics. Only statistical information is reported in the metrics.
- AW: Highlighted certain key points including: inspections, number of lease violations, late payments, and number of lease property holders, etc...
- It was encouraged to review 2019 Metrics at home and then highlight or circle questions, concerns, or comments about the metrics.

### 4. **Community Activities**

- Andrew identified social activities Housing has supported or sponsored in the past including Summer Reading program, back to school, Labor Day picnic, Trunk or Treat, and all of the Pow-Wows.
- This year – Housing wants ideas from the AC on what events they would like to see sponsored or developed for 2020.
- FP: Family activities to do with the children. Maybe offer craft days. Donating to the Community Pow-wow would be an excellent choice. Many tenants attend the Pow-wows.
- DJ: Pow-wows yes. Tribal members come to Pow-Wows. We should offer a Garage Sale during Mount Pleasant Garage Sale Weekend or during the Community Pow-Wow. We can also advertise for tenants also having garage sale or we could offer tables for tenants where we are having the event at.
- ZG: How about sponsoring the school system like K-12, STEM or art programs, or kid's summer camps.
- FP: We should sponsor the summer reading program again.

### 5. **Pet Policy**

- DS provided the committee with a letter from a tenant about the current pet policy.
- DJ: Do we know what the background of the policy is where it come from?
- AW: Rosalie and Kathy would be able to provide that information. We should wait until we get their perspective before we make any decision.
- Dani volunteered to create a letter to the tenant to inform them – We have received your letter and are currently discussing it.
- The committee requested a copy of the pet policy, which Andrew is going to e-mail.

### **Motion to Table Pet Policy for Next Meeting:**

On a motion duly made by Dani Sineway seconded by Zach Gauger, it was moved to table the pet policy for the next Advisory committee meeting. 5 for, motion carried.

### **Next Meeting date:**

- March 11th, 2020 at 5:15 PM

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

On a motion duly made by Zach Gauger seconded by Fanella Poola, it was moved to adjourn. 5 for, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 PM