

MINUTES

Housing Advisory Committee Meeting
Salem Housing Authority
October 25, 2006

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Staff Attending</u>	<u>Others Attending</u>
Mark Cusick Craig Carlson Jeff Lewis Dennis Bell Robert Barko Don Williams Maria Palacio Vergie Olson	Betty Markey	Jerry Croft Phil Dean Sandy Garabedian Nicole Utz Virginia Melton	

1 Call to Order

Mark Cusick called the meeting to order.

2.1 Minutes of August 23, 2006 were approved

3.1 Program Management Report

Jerry Croft, Housing Administrator presented Program Management Report. Salem Housing Authority has been participating in a local pilot project with Marion County Commissioner Janet Carlson is helping families coming out of incarceration find transitional housing or tenant based housing assistance. Families coming out of incarceration are having problems coming back into society without falling back into drug use and crime. They may also lose their parenting rights. There are many barriers to becoming housed due to their criminal background. Without being adequately housed it is difficult to get children back which can be a large cost to society.

The funds would come from Home Funds to allow affordable housing while clients wait for a voucher and re-enter the workforce. Mr. Croft reported that changes would be coming back to the Committee for approval.

The Salem Housing Authority is close to 100% of utilization of its Voucher Program.

4.1 Election of HAC Officers

The Housing Authority Committee elected Mark Cusick as Chair and Jeff Lewis as Vice-Chair effective immediately.

4.2 Project Basing Housing Choice Vouchers

Jerry Croft presented the issue of designating approximately 20% of the housing choice vouchers for assisting persons with disabilities in specific rental housing properties. Mr. Croft requested the Committee to consider the pros and cons for "project-basing" a limited number of housing choice vouchers and provide input to the Housing Administrator.

It was recommended to pursue further changes and report back to Housing Authority Committee with a plan and set an initial target of 50 vouchers. The HAC may wish to have their recommendation carried forward to the Salem Housing Authority Commission.

4.3 Southfair Project Based Subsidy Contract

It was recommended that the Housing Advisory Committee consider the Southfair Project Based Subsidy Contract termination and provide input to the Housing Administrator. The Southfair Apartments property has encountered complication and expense due to the PBRS contract requirements during the past 6 years. The PBRS contract is renewed on a yearly basis. There is an opportunity to "opt-out" of the contract each year in December.

The Housing Advisory Committee recommended that Salem Housing Authority opt-out of the project-based subsidy contract and carries that recommendation to the Salem Housing Authority Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next meeting to be determined.