Baltimore City Housing Committee **Notes**

Wednesday December 29th 10:00 – 11:00

Zoom

**Present:** Diane Dressler, Hugh Scoggins, Michael Bullis, Monica McCall, Zelma Ortiz, Ami Taubenfeld, Tim Wiens, Lauren Silverstone, Terri Bradford

1. Welcome
   1. Tim welcomed the committee members and thanked them for their participation.
2. Planning for new affordable housing in Baltimore City
   1. The commissioner did not attend the meeting. Tim will reach out to try to reschedule.
3. Follow-up on from October 15th meeting
   1. It was suggested that we invite Senator Antonio Hayes to a future meeting after the legislative session closes. His email is: [antonio@antoniohayes.com](mailto:antonio@antoniohayes.com) or [Antonio.Hayes@senate.state.md.us](mailto:Antonio.Hayes@senate.state.md.us)
4. Hugh from the Office of Civil Rights & Equity says “we are working on getting closed caption vendors for the website.” They are trying to coordinate ADA services. The charter calls for 23 commissioners but the city only has about half right now. There are applicants that still need to be vetted. The next Mayor’s commission for people with disabilities meeting (open to the public) is the 4th Wednesday of the month. Valerie Lecore will be giving a presentation on accessibility in transportation for the disabled.
5. Tim talked about collaboration with developers in other jurisdictions. He shared that Howard County is redeveloping housing originally developed 50 years ago and encouraging the process of making units accessible. In Montgomery County, we are meeting with developers to encourage them to make amenities accessible to people with disabilities. There was discussion of housing developments that were occurring in Baltimore City:
   1. Clipper Mill, Valstone properties is putting up micro apartments by the light rail. They invited (some organization) in to discuss the needs of the disabled which was much appreciated. The project is currently on hold.
   2. Woodberry/Woodberry station by Cold Spring and Loyola college is developing properties. They were not responsive to requests to set aside units for people with disabilities.
   3. SeaWall is working on the Lexington Market development.
6. The Qualified Allocation Plan gives extra points for developing in areas of opportunity present a problem for people with disabilities because they may not have the public transportation necessary for those with disabilities to live there. MIH did comment on the draft plan and shared those comments with this and other Housing Committees
7. The state of Maryland has an autism coordinator, Katie Gandy. That person will have a task force that will be looking at issues/challenges. We could reach out to her. Her email is [katie.gandy@maryland.gov](mailto:katie.gandy@maryland.gov) and her number is (410) 697-9279.
8. Talk about next steps
   1. State delegate Michelle Guyton might be worth reaching out to even though she’s in Baltimore County. Her contact information: <https://www.micheleguyton.com/contact-1>
   2. Tim will talk with Ami to decide which groups/developers we should reach out to because they have experience in Baltimore City. Larry Jennings of Valstone and Jewel Jennings (his niece) would be a good person to reach out to. Ami will send Tim their contact information.
9. Next meeting
   1. We will test dates with the speakers and send out a poll to committee members to decide on the next meeting date.