

INTERFAITH OPEN COMMUNITIES
HYDE PARK CLUSTER MEETING
Minutes of Jan. 12, 2006

Present: Mark Granfors, Allan Lindrup, Joe Marlin, Paul Beals, Pat Wilcoxen, Marlene Vellinga, Gene Krell, Steve Flowers, John and Brenda Murphy.

Pat Wilcoxen called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00. She again reminded the group that we need a person (or persons) to replace Will White at taking notes of our meetings.

Paul Beals reported on the Shared Housing project. He has more providers than seekers, but many of the providers want market-rate rents, as well as stability in the seekers. He has two current providers in Hyde Park and will email their information to Pat Wilcoxen. It was suggested that Paul make a presentation of the program to the Hyde Park Older Women's League (OWL). Pat will provide Paul with a contact there. Churches have been a disappointment for providers or seekers in Hyde Park. Paul plans to meet with the coordinator of a home sharing project on the North Side of Chicago. He also distributed information from the Eleanor Foundation and encouraged us to consider submitting a proposal by Jan. 31st.

Pat distributed the 2005 Legislative Update on housing issues prepared by IOC and there was some discussion.

The Hyde Park Housing Forum planning is progressing. Several organizations in the community are being asked to co-sponsor it to broaden the base of participation. The date has been set for Saturday morning, April 29th.

Gene Krell brought to groups attention a series of articles on mixed and affordable housing recently run in the Chicago Tribune.

John and Brenda Murphy and Steve Flowers joined the meeting after attending the TIF meeting. They reported that the shadow study and parking for the 53rd and Cornell building are still under review, but it appears to be a done deal. They felt that there was respectful conversation at the meeting that will help in future affordable housing opportunities. The bulk of the TIF meeting was focused on an RFP for the Harper Theater project. This may be another opportunity where we should speak up for affordable housing early in the planning.

The next meeting is Monday, February 13th at St. Thomas the Apostle School.

Notes reconstructed by Pat Wilcoxen