

**HYDE PARK CLUSTER MEETING  
INTERFAITH OPEN COMMUNITIES  
Minutes: August 10, 2004**

**Present:** Joe Marlin, Pat Wilcoxon, Don Coleman, Marlene Vellinga, Gene Krell, Mark Granfors, Allan Lindrup, Brenda and John Murphy, Will White.

1. The meeting was convened by P. Wilcoxon at 8:10 P.M. D. Coleman opened the meeting with a prayer giving thanks for our collective well being, progress toward goals, and a request for Divine accompaniment in our life's journeys.
2. **Housing Legislation Outlook** - In spite of sustained efforts by Protestants for the Common Good and other housing advocates, the spread of affordable housing through state legislative mandate is being challenged by some suburban groups who view this initiative as a threat to property values.
  - Locally, Inclusionary Housing, with an adjusted 15% set-asides provision, is being re-assigned from the Housing Committee to the Zoning Committee. While, the Mayor's opposition to this ordinance continues, the need for additional aldermanic support for passage also continues. This measure should come up for a vote this Fall.
  - Other Housing Measures:
    - a. SB 2329 - Federally Assisted Housing Preservation Act - This bill has been pushed by the Chicago Rehab Network and has passed both houses and signed by the Governor.
    - b. HB 4100 - The Rental Housing Support Program Act - This measure, designed to provide rental assistance to low income tenants, has been sidetracked by the Speaker, whose opposition is said to be based on an objectionable \$10 recording fee.
    - c. SB 2597 - Human Rights Amendment - this bill, supported by PCG and provides protection against unlawful discrimination, is bottled up in Rules and consequently cannot be assigned to committee.

3. **Shared Housing** - W. White summarized Melody Geraci's Progress Report for June and July. While inquiries, intakes and advertising/publicity continue, there is a need for additional effort and involvement at the various faith communities level. One suggestion, for a designated day set aside for highlighting the Shared Housing Program in Hyde Park, will be further discussed, as well as other means of support for this program, at the next meeting. An insert on home sharing was featured in last week's STA Bulletin and will be carried in the Hyde Park Interfaith Council's newsletter. Also, the Chicago Rehab Network is sponsoring a one day summit focused on the future of federal housing policy, Tuesday, August 17th, at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
  
4. **Transitional Housing** - The THP is on sound financial footing; nonetheless, the need for financial support is on-going and grant writing, advertising, and other fund raising ventures will occur. J. Marlin, on behalf of THP, has applied for and has been approved as a recipient of an on-going special KAM Congregation fund collected and distributed to various causes. This collection and distribution is in addition to KAM's regular financial support of the project.
  
5. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M. and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13th, 8:00 P.M., at STA.

Submitted by,

W. White, Recorder