



**City of Falls Church  
Housing Commission  
MINUTES**

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:** *The five-member Commission is appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. The Housing Commission maintains awareness of housing needs and opportunities, including affordable housing; proposes housing policy initiatives and changes; investigates fair housing complaints and conciliates these complaints; mediates conflicts relating to the Virginia Residential Landlord & Tenant Act and offers reconciliatory services in conflicts relating to other housing laws.*

**DATE OF MEETING:** February 9, 2021

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Virtual

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Chair Joshua Shokoor at **6:36 PM**

**THOSE PRESENT:**

<p><b>Commission Members</b>          Jordan Hicks, Vice Chair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>          Joshua Shokoor, Chair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>          Peter Davis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>          Kristina Martinez <input type="checkbox"/>          Meredith Anderson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <b>FCHC Liaison</b>          Thom Vaccaro <input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Council Liaison</b>          Letty Hardi <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Staff</b>          Dana Lewis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>          Noha Osman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <b>Planning Commission Liaison</b>          Andrea Caumont <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <b>Student Liaison</b>          Jessie Cummings <input type="checkbox"/>          Jillian Kendrick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  <b>Guest:</b>          Phil Duncan- Council Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Minutes from the **January 12, 2020** meeting were **Approved**

**Proceedings:**

Meeting and Roll called to order – **Chair Shokoor** at **6:36 PM**

Reading of Virtual Meeting Notice – Staff Lewis

**Approval of Minutes** – Chair Shokoor

One motion to approve and seconded.

### **Update -Voluntary Concessions Broad and Washington - Chair Shokoor**

- 21 units with various housing types Total units– 18 units; 9 studio units at 40% AMI and 9 2 bedroom units at 60% AMI
- Waiting list on a first come – first serve point system –utilizing ADU priorities
- Cash in lieu payments (city obtains cash in lieu payments instead of ADUs)

### **Tenant Response Update – Staff Osman**

- Office of Communication is putting it up
- Distribute to rental buildings manually and put it on website
- Waiting for IT to set up the automated message
- “Fair Housing” definition to be included
- “Landlord friendly language” propose changes about eviction process

### **COVID-19 Vulnerable Populations Update - Staff Lewis**

- City receiving \$13k from the VA Department of Housing and Community Development to assist residential/nonresidential customers to pay for utilities
- CDBG funds will be utilized in March (1.5 months) after that we will no longer have funds
- VA Rent Relief Program (CARES funds distributed to larger localities) new program scheduled to start in March (\$520 million). City residents will utilize.
  - Each person is eligible for 15 months of rent assistance regardless of background/citizenship
  - Advocating that property managers apply for their residents
  - Anticipating shorter wait times
- City funds still available for utilities and food if needed

### **CDBG/ HOME UPDATE – Staff Lewis**

- Homestretch, Falls Church Housing Corp, Winter Hill using CDBG funds to serve members of the community. Programs are going well.
- City holding weekly meetings with Fairfax County and Arlington regarding transition on July 1.
- It will be the same amount of money allocated through Fairfax

**Affordable Housing Fund - Work Group Membership Nominations – Chair Shokoor/Staff Lewis**

- Recommendations made on Affordable Housing Fund Policy regarding prioritizing scoring system/affordable housing as a whole
- Dedicate annual funding to the Affordable Housing Fund (can't just rely on cash in lieu or ADU sales)
- Council might be hesitant to put money into a fund with no projects
- Applicants complete application with supporting documentation, Housing Commission convenes an Affordable Housing Fund workgroup
- Recommendations for workgroup members to be emailed to Dana Lewis

**FY 2021 Housing Commission Annual Report – Chair Shokoor**

- Annual Report to be presented to the council
- Any highlights/topics to be added to the 2020 report
- To be completed within the next month
- Send email recommendations to Joshua Shokoor

**Meeting Adjourned – 7:56 PM**