

City of Grand Rapids

Affordable Housing Fund Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, January 4th, 2023 Noon-2:00 pm

City Hall, 300 Monroe Ave NW, 49503, 9th Floor, Commission Chambers

- I. Call to Order by Chair Talen at 12:03pm
- II. Roll Call-Townsend absent.
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2022-Motioned by Beard, seconded by Drent, motion carried.
- IV. Action Items
- V. Discussion Items
 - Eureka People of Housing Kent presented to the Board
 - Presentation included history, formation and purpose of the organization. Discussion included questions around efforts to streamline services in the future as well as how the Board's work could align with Housing Kent to include "voices of people with lived experiences."
 - Additional discussion on how Housing Kent "fits in the puzzle," who is directly impacted, the advisory team and "how can we improve our collective support for residents" continued. The presentation also included data around housing and homelessness which led to comments about the frustration with incomplete or competing data and the importance of common definitions of "homelessness."
 - Ms. People highlighted Housing Kent's three universal goals of increasing affordable housing, dissolving homelessness and eliminating racial disparities in the housing system.
 - There was discussion about efforts to help renters avoid evictions.

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- Kate Berens presented an update on the RFP
 - The team is working on the “meat” of the RFP and the schedule will coordinate well for the applicants.
 - The RFP will be pushed out in the next few weeks as they are still working towards the end of March to provide a recommendation to the City Commission.

VI. Updates

- Washington discussed the upcoming City Commission meeting on Jan 10th on the holistic approach towards the unhoused in our community and homelessness.

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment at 1:18pm by Chair Talen

Jim Talen, Board Chair

Next Meeting is Wednesday, February 1st at Noon in Commission Chambers