

**CRIME FREE HOUSING ORDINANCE TASK FORCE
(APPROVED)
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday February 27th, 2013**

Members: Alderman Ken Kinsella – Chairman
Alderman Dean Hardt
Kevin Bouse
Linda Havlin
John Masur
Dan Nollman
Tricia Tialdo
Mayor Eckert

Staff : Robert Sabo
Lt. Matt Eiskant

Guests Rick Brown, Lee Griffin, Bob White, Rhonda Campos, Emily Scott, May Yeh, Michael Hagberg, Victoria Weygant, Jacqueline Lee, Raven Griffin, and Alderman Elmore.

Chairman Kinsella called the meeting to order at 6:30P.M.

John Masur made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 17th, 2013 meeting second by Linda Havlin. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Kinsella mentioned that Mayor Eckert had accepted Stan Bratske's resignation from the Task Force. Chairman Kinsella wished to thank Stan for his hard work and his gentlemanly demeanor while he was on the committee.

Chairman Kinsella opened the floor for comments by any guest.

Michael Hagberg expressed dismay overall for going after all landlords and not just the bad ones. He believes that the mandatory checks should be removed from the ordinance.

Rick Brown related that this is just a replacement for an ordinance that is already on the books. He feels that privacy issues are at stake and fears that the information obtained will be used by someone to get a credit card in their name.

Rhonda Campos questioned the purpose of the background checks believing that the burden should fall on the city.

Chairman Kinsella read portions of a letter from City Attorney Patrick Flynn in which he proposed some modifications to the draft that included numerous changes to terms used throughout the Ordinance to be consistent with the definitions. In addition it included a definition for "Rental Agreement". He proposed a subsection b) to Section 33-3-7 to address the situation where a family member is renting to another family member. The City Attorney specified Section 33-3-8 only applies to the denial of the registration and provided that the hearing procedure to be specified in Section 33-3-18. The Pre-deprivation Hearing Opportunity section was completely deleted. The proposed expiration date of 2017 was deleted as well.

On discussion the Committee agreed with the definition revision and the subsection b) to Section 33-3-7. The Pre-deprivation Hearing Opportunity provision elimination was questioned. After discussion, it was felt that if the City established a City Court the Pre-deprivation Hearing provision could be added back into the ordinance. The Committee did not agree with the deletion of the proposed expiration date of the Ordinance in 2017 and would request that the City Attorney include it in the Ordinance.

Chairman Kinsella brought up the proposal of the separate account for all the funds collected from the twenty five dollar unit fee. After discussion with the Mayor, in which was mentioned that no other such account has ever been established and that it would be difficult to institute, it was proposed that a complete audit of all funds collected and expenditures, along with the crime statistics be presented to the Crime Free Housing Committee for review on a biyearly or yearly basis. The Committee agreed to have a financial report clause placed in the Ordinance.

On behalf of Chief Clay the Mayor requested that the wording be eliminated under the US Comprehensive Criminal Search for the police department to conduct checks. The committee agreed and will have alternatives for the landlords to obtain background checks.

With the completion of the discussion on the Crime Free Housing Ordinance a meeting was scheduled for Thursday March 14th 6:30PM in the City Council Chambers to review the final draft. A proposal will be made to present the drafted Ordinance to a special City Council meeting/ Public Hearing on Thursday March 21st at 7:00PM..

The correspondents from the Shriver Center on Poverty were mentioned in which addressed the concerns that a Crime Free Housing ordinance potentially could violate a person's right when it came to the matter of domestic related incidents. The committee feels that the City's proposed ordinance does not violate anyone's rights.

Chairman Kinsella opened the meeting again for public comments.

Rick Brown requested that the new draft be posted on the City website. He believes that all police officers should be trained in Crime Free Housing.

Rhonda Campos commented that the fees should be directed to the Crime Free Housing program. The members answered her questions on background checks.

With no further public comments Alderman Hardt made a motion to adjourn second by Mr. Masur.