



SCIT HOUSING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes 5/12/2021

Members Present:

Dayna Johansen, Chairperson
Dani Sineway
Zach Gauger
Fanella Poola

Staff Present:

Andrew Wagner, Administrative Assistant
Rosalie Maloney, Housing Manager

Members Absent:

Vickie Camp

Called to order: at 5:27pm by Dayna Johansen, Chairperson

Roll Call:

Moment of silence:

Agenda:

On a motion duly made by Dayna Johansen, seconded by Dani Sineway it was moved to approve the agenda.4 for, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

On a motion duly made by Zach Gauger, seconded by Dayna Johansen it was moved to approve the minutes dated April 14th, 2021.4 for, motion carried.

Old Business

Housing COVID policies and protocols:

RM: With the state of Michigan easing COVID restrictions; how would you feel about face to face meetings?

ZG: I am OK with it

FP: Yes

DS: Yes

DJ: I have younger children, so I would not feel comfortable.

RM: Maybe we can do a hybrid meeting face-to-face and online.

RM: Lets plan for it. Next month Hybrid.

New Business

1. Formal Grievance Hearings –Informational

RM: Before the COVID, we had a couple of evictions in process. We were asked to hold off from the US government. The first one expired in July and the second expired in December. Unfortunately, now the Tribal court is back logged due to the pandemic. We have seen challenges with tenants paying their rent, so many of them have complained to Tribal council. Some people unfortunately try to play the system. I am looking for input on the Advisory committee being part of the grievance process. This grievance process may open members up to liability.

DJ: If you can work things out with the tenants – let’s do it.

RM: I would like to address this at the next meeting. I will be proving all members with a grievance policy for your review. Please read it and come with questions and concerns.

ZG: I appreciate the honest and I am not the type of person to post everything on social media sites.

DJ: What does council want us to do?

RM: Council wants to see you step in to this role.

RM: You would define the types of hearings, the process, and the level.

ZG: How should we address it?

RM: Next month we will work on a letter on intention for Tribal council.

DJ: We will write down individually reasons to support our decision.

ZG: This is a great idea.

DJ: Is there something less – that still offers the tenants something?

RM: Yes – We need to find the “in between”.

2. Rent and utilities assistance – US Treasury – Informational

RM:The US treasury granted the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe two million dollars to help people who have been effected by COVID catch up on their rent and utility bills. Anyone can apply as long as they live in the 8-country areas, are low income, and have been effected by COVID either with reduced hours and/or a job layoff. We want to help out any Tribal community member struggle who meets the income requirements and who can show financial hardship. We plan to hire a full time CERA coordinator position soon. If you know anyone who can benefit from this program – please spread the word. Currently, we have 12 applicants. If we don’t use the funds, the government could take them from us for put them in other areas. That is why is so important to utilize these funds to help out our local community.

ZG: It is nice to know we have this resource available.

3. Neighborhood watch program – Informational

AW: One of the projects we are working on is safety and security for the local neighborhood. Over the summer we will be implementing a community watch program. The main job of the watch program would be to partner with the local police department to provide crime prevention and safety workshops. We were just looking for initial thoughts of a neighborhood watch program.

FP: I'm interested

DS: Great idea. Especially what to do if you see suspicious behavior.

ZG: Great idea. I heard a gunshot once and didn't know what to do.

4. Weekend Drop Box – Informational

AW: A while back the committee recommended an outside drop off box for nights and weekends. I am proud to say maintenance put one together and it is currently located in front of the building. I just seen a Tribal elder use it. Thank you for a great idea.

5. Idea of possibly change days of meetings.

On a motion duly made by Dani Sineway, seconded by Fanella Poola it was moved table for the next meeting.⁴ for, motion carried.

Reports/Correspondence:

Announcements:

1. Clean up Day 2021 – May 15th from 9am – Noon
2. Rent and utilities assistance – Spread the word
3. Kelly Walworth – New Land Title Specialist

Adjournment:

Next Meeting date: June 9th @ 5:15pm, 2021

Motion to Adjourn:

On a motion duly made by Dani Sineway seconded by Dayna Johansen, it was moved to adjourn.⁴for, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 PM