

INCLUSION PANEL MEETING NOTES: May 4, 2020

Attendees: Maly, Noonan, Stoller, Frank, Williams, Gideonse, Neikirk, Schneider, Brewer, J. Young.

The purpose of the meeting was to begin the process of identifying an action agenda for the Cincinnati Inclusion Panel wherein we could assist the efforts of the community in beginning to solve the problem of affordable housing. Given the changes brought about by the pandemic, most felt that the affordable housing deficits in the community would be changing over time and for the most part worsening.

Potential interventions for the Inclusion Panel emerged:

- Support the passage of the initiative to develop an affordable housing trust fund...on ballot in November?
- Urge the completion of the Cincinnati affordable housing plan started by LISC and GCF.
- Research what other cities are doing and assure their wins are imbedded in the Cincinnati plan
- Identify more tactical approaches for now like doing something in the eviction sphere
- Gather signatures aimed at getting the Trust Fund on the November ballot.
- Secure endorsements for the Trust Fund initiative.
- Develop and execute small group discussions about the Trust Fund.
- Continue to monitor community activity to see where the efforts of Cincinnati could make a difference.
- See where we can help with the eviction issue.
- Look for partnerships with sister issues, e.g., minimum wage enhancement, and other possible alliances.
- Learn about how Ohio laws compare to other states related to eviction and other affordable housing challenges. Are there emerging public policy best practices?
- Host and publish the results of a focus group of leaders in the Affordable housing space.
- Sponsor a Habitat for Humanity renovation
- Improve housing response for those threatened with loss of housing by inventorying agencies that help in that arena and identifying gaps.
- Learn more from those who have been evicted by inviting some to attend focus groups. Publish the results.
- Work with Council members to get action on the Trust Fund idea.
- Monitor Ohio eviction policy change proposals.
- Find out what CMHA is doing now and whether their thinking has changed because of the pandemic.
- Help find a way to let the community really understand the affordable housing crisis and its impact.
- Raise private funds for the Trust Fund via philanthropy, foundations, etc.
- Work with/partner with an agency addressing affordable housing issues.
- Develop a speakers bureau to educate broader constituencies about the issue.
- Cincinnati joins LISC and GC Foundation to sponsor the plan and its execution.
- Get marketing pros to develop and present a coherent message to the community about the challenges.

- Focus on a geographic area like the West End to assure socially equitable development, stimulate the West End Housing Trust Fund.
- Help the Cincinnati Trust Fund advocates refine and improve the initiative planning.
- Identify a community champion.

A CONSENSUS SEEMED TO EMERGE THAT MOST OF WHAT WE DISCUSSED REQUIRES THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE CINCINNATI PLAN.

NEXT MEETING OF THE CINCINNATUS INCLUSION PANEL: VIA ZOOM ON JUNE 1, 2020. 11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM