



c/o IFF
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**Meeting Minutes
Steering Committee Meeting
West Cook County Housing Collaborative**

**March 20, 2014
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 pm.
Oak Park Village Hall
123 Madison Street, Oak Park, IL**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by David Myers at 3:10 p.m.

II. Attendees

- Members Present: Ronald Nightengale and Tonita LeShore (Bellwood); Alderman Cesar Santoy and Alicia Ruiz (Berwyn); Tim Gillian (Forest Park); Mayor Edwenna Perkins and David Myers (Maywood); Colette Lueck and Tammie Grossman (Oak Park).
- Member(s) Absent: Mayor Calderone (Forest Park).
- Others Present: Evan Summers (Berwyn); John Gerut and Kristine Giornalista (IFF); Allison Clements (Metropolitan Mayors Caucus).

III. Non-Agenda Public Comment

There was no non-agenda public comment.

IV. Agenda

MOTION to accept by Tim Gillian and seconded by Tonita LeShore. MOTION passed unanimously.

V. Minutes of December 9, 2013

MOTION to accept by Tim Gillian and seconded by Tonita LeShore. MOTION passed unanimously.

VI. Strategic Planning

- The objective of the meeting was to determine the overall direction of WCCHC for the next 3-5 years. The steering committee and working group members split into small groups by municipality to confirm housing goals for their municipalities. Based on the municipal-level housing goals, the group agreed to common housing goals for WCCHC:
 - Reduce foreclosures and mitigate their impact on neighborhoods
 - Improve or maintain current housing stock (with respect to quality, maintenance, accessibility, mix of housing types)
 - Maintain existing and attract new residents
- Small group discussions focused on identifying components for a new mission statement, which IFF will use to craft a new mission statement. Responses included:
 - Our Cause
 - Reduce vacant property numbers
 - Increase property values
 - Increase TOD
 - Share knowledge/resources across the region
 - Resident-focused; citizens
 - Stabilizing and preserving the communities

- Our five communities
 - Preserving housing values
- Our Actions
 - Bring resources/ideas to stabilize housing
 - Plans with deliverable results
 - Implementing programs as funding opportunities presented
 - Planning activities
- Desired Impacts
 - Enhancing communities; upgrade communities
 - Shared knowledge
 - Decrease urban sprawl
 - Rehabbed homes; housing stock improved
 - Idea exchange
 - Working on common housing goals
 - Call to action
 - Communities working together serves as a model
- The group supported the priorities areas suggested by IFF:
 - Supporting implementation of comprehensive plans
 - Addressing distressed small multifamily housing stock
 - Supporting local policy initiatives, including research into “zombie properties” and promoting good property management
- Over the next month, IFF will:
 - Draft a mission statement based on the feedback at this meeting
 - Identify initiatives that align with the new priority areas
 - Develop funding scenarios for new priority areas
- The leadership group will reconvene in May.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kristine Giornalista, IFF.