



Rural Maryland Council (RMC)

Rural Housing Working Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Bill Valentine, Cindy Stone, John Hartline, JoAnn Hansen, Linda Kohler, Deborah Hudson, Delegate Schmit, Dominique Parks-Crisfield, Dona Sorce, Donna Hurley, Gladys Bustos, Holly DeKarske, Jianning Zeng, Keith Cornish, Kimberly Fisher, Molly Holligoss, Alice Settle-Raskin, Susie Hayward, Oudia Joi Cooper-Rodriquez, Dee Cutler, Yvonne Golczeski, Claudia Wilson Randall, Ron Hantz, Chris Yearton, Marci Bridgeford, Valerie Miller

RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Megan D’Arcy, Molli Cole, Leeza DeCheubel

The Rural Maryland Council (RMC) hosted a Rural Funding Infrastructure Webinar that preceded the Rural Housing Working Committee meeting. This featured special guest speakers: Terry Fearins, Director, Community Programs, Rural Development, Delaware and Maryland State United States Department of Agriculture, Cindy Stone, Director, Community Development Programs, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Jeff Fretwell, Director, Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment, and Charlotte Davis, Executive Director, Rural Maryland Council.

Chair Dominic Butchko welcomed the committee and initiated introductions at 11:01 am.

Charlotte Davis requested the committee review the spreadsheet draft for the Maryland Rural Housing and Community Development Asset Map. The idea is to develop contacts in each county to ensure proper advocacy and communication amongst communities. This allows for a better understanding of capacity, as not every local rural jurisdiction has a housing authority.

Kimberly Fisher explored the possibility of the committee partnering with master’s students in public policy to help guide them in their research for their thesis.

Ron Hantz of the Network for Developing Conscious Communities informed the committee that they have been working with Key Stone Development Center, as well as the National Community Development Association to develop a forum on shared housing.

Charlotte Davis informed the committee of a change to the next meeting date that was previously scheduled for November 7, 2024. This has been updated to November 21, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am via Zoom conference. Ms. Davis would like to invite guest speakers from the recent Iowa National Partner Conference to voice their TIFF experience, which the committee agreed would be beneficial. Claudia Wilson Randall proposed that Michael Pokorny, newly appointed chief executive officer of the Maryland Community Investment Corporation, also be invited to guest speak regarding new market tax credits affecting rural communities.

Chair Dominic Butchko motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 am, the motion was unanimously approved.