

Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission Neighborhood Affordable Housing Committee Meeting December 11, 2008

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission Affordable Housing Committee meeting, December 11, 2008, 6 pm, Tempe Library Connections Café, 3500 S. Rural Road.

Members present: Lisa Roach, Andy Hall

Members absent: Pete DeMott, Greg Ellison, Tom Catlaw

City Staff present: None

Guests present: Dr Ed Valenzuela, Director Arizona Fair Housing Center

Agenda item 1 – Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:17 PM

Agenda item 2 – Public Comment

A call for any public comment was made without any responses

Agenda Item 3 - Discussion with Dr. Ed Valenzuela, Executive Director, Arizona Fair Housing Center

Topics discussed;

- What is Fair housing? The right of individuals to obtain the housing of their choice free from discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin. The right is assured by the Federal Fair housing act of 1968, as amended and the Arizona Fair housing act of 1990.
- After 1991 new buildings of more than 4 units must provide reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (ground level units)
- Funded with HUD funds and donations
- Education and outreach are needed to educate landlords and tenants of their rights
- Violations have been reported in Tempe.
- Not enough enforcement with landlord –Tenant disputes. Need help at a state level as well as local.
- Municipalities can and do have testing done, Tempe not at this time.
- Changes could be coming to Fair housing to strengthen the law, help with the foreclosure crisis, housing initiative programs, and education programs.
- Look at having a Fair Housing Training at NAC.

Agenda Item 4 – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm

Prepared by Lisa Roach