

# Smart Growth Housing Work Group

Submitted by J. Shue

## Meeting #1 Minutes

9/26/2022

Present: Karen Sullivan, Sean Lewis, Sara Evenson, Danielle McMullen, Mark Drnek, Danny Lapin, Cecelia Walsh-Russo, Jared Shue

Next meeting: TBD

### 1. Announcements

- a) None.

### 2. Discussion

- a) Introductions.
- b) Brief remarks from Mayor Drnek.
- c) **Work Group Structure:** It was decided that no chair would be selected for the first few meetings. *Post-meeting note: Karen Sullivan suggested a rotating chair structure.*
- d) **Housing Data:** a compilation of previous housing studies, maps, and other pertinent data should be made available to all work groups.
  - i. **Action:** Danny Lapin will compile data received by the previous Housing Commission. The work group will create a list of other data that the work group feels might be missing and send it to Jared Shue.
- e) **Shared Information:** to prevent overlap, a mechanism should be put in place to share information between workgroups.
  - i. **Action:** Danny Lapin will research different “project management” tools.
- f) **Smart Growth Toolkit:** Sara Evenson suggested creating a “Smart Growth Toolkit” that would provide a list of resources to the City.
- g) **Demographics:** Danielle McMullen stressed the importance of focusing on the target demographic. “Who are we attracting and what are they looking for?” Mayor Drnek added that the largest target demographic is 25-39 year old employed/employable people.
- h) **Case Studies:** Karen Sullivan suggested bringing case studies to the table to discuss and learn from what other municipalities are doing.
- a. **Grants:** The CFA grant period opens in May and ends in July.
  - i. **Action:** The goal of the work group is to review and make recommendations for grant applications by January.

Sean Lewis asked if the IDA offer any housing-related grants. This could be answered by City staff.

### **3. Roundtable**

Interspersed throughout the meeting was discussion about some overarching themes of housing issues. Some of these issues included absent landlords and student/seasonal rentals that are reducing the full-time resident housing stock. Climate and environmental planning was also brought up as a key focus for city development. Karen Sullivan asked if there was data available for households that utilize heat pumps and other efficient equipment – however, this data may not be readily available. This may have to either be self-reported or requested from NYSEG.

### **4. Next Meeting**

A bi-weekly schedule was proposed. Mayor Drnek recommended that meetings take place in City Hall. If City Hall is unavailable, a public meeting space should be used. Online (Zoom, Teams, etc.) is also an option. *Post-meeting note: October 10 is a holiday.*