

Neighborhood Improvement Meeting
4-18-23

Present: Hannah, Sam, Maria, Marty, Charles, Bob, Mark Drnek, Jerid Goss

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

Proposals:

- Rental Moratorium
 - “This pertains to wards 1-7 (excluding Ward 8) in the City of Oneonta. If single and multi-family rental properties in each ward exceed 30% of total properties in their respective ward, the City will enact a moratorium on new rentals in that ward until the percentage of rentals is 30% or below. This includes short- and long-term rental properties that are not owner-occupied. During a moratorium, existing single family homes cannot be subdivided into multi-family dwellings.”
 - Hannah will bring this to the Housing Commission again for a deciding vote.
- Oswego Renaissance/ Fulton Block Builders projects
 - Charles’ proposal
 - Hannah will bring this to the Housing Commission.
- Landlord registration proposal with the City
 - Maria’s proposal
 - Hannah will bring this to the Housing Commission.

Future Ideas for Proposals:

- Code Enforcement Expansion
 - [Lehigh University example](#) from Marty
 - Oswego example of code enforcement sweeps from Sam
- Publicly Available Document
 - The Code Enforcement office will create and maintain a publicly available document listing all properties which have been reported that are in violation of the City code. Our intent is to help enhance neighborhoods, increase transparency, and expand Code Enforcement.
- Is there a way that we could tax/create a fee structure for landlords who own XX number of properties in the City?
- Trash cans through Oneonta Community Initiative (OCI) grants
- Re-introduce 2013 Housing Recommendations

Discussion:

- Mark explained the process for proposals getting to the City Council.

- We propose an idea to the Housing Commission.
- The Housing Commission essentially gives a thumbs up, discusses barriers from the City's perspective, gives critique, or denies the idea.
- Proposal comes back to the N.I. workgroup to create a workflow of how this idea can be implemented.
- The workflow proposal goes to the Housing Commission for vote.
- The Housing Commission brings the proposal to the Common Council.
- Mark discussed the idea of encouraging Neighborhood Associations.
- We, as a group, feel like rentals and landlords are the biggest challenge we keep facing.
 - Mark: Student landlords are facing a significant drop in enrollment in the next few years, which could be an estimated 600 "empty beds" in center city Oneonta.
 - This might lead to rental houses being sold.
- How can we collaborate with the Rental workgroup?
 - We all need to be part of the discussion about how landlords and rentals impact neighborhoods. This might be a contentious endeavor, but it is necessary for moving forward.
 - In the future, we can send email ideas to Jerid for discussion at his group.
 - Send him a list of concerns to address with his group.
 - We can join meetings when they pertain to neighborhood improvement.
 - The first issue that will pertain to us is landlords selling off houses due to projected student enrollment drop.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM