

Draft Minutes of the Maricopa HOME Consortium Public Meeting
March 17, 2022 9:34 am

Consortium Members Present:

Sandy Lopez, City of Avondale
Karin Bishop, City of Chandler
Melanie Dykstra, Town of Gilbert
Matt Hess, City of Glendale
Rachel Milne, Chair, Maricopa County
Renee Ayres-Benavidez, City of Peoria
Mary Witkofski, City of Scottsdale
Adam Lane, City of Surprise
Kathy Nugent, City of Tempe

Others Present:

Janae Mitchell, City of Surprise
DeAnn Blandford, City of Surprise
Stephanie Knox, HUD Representative
Jamie MacFarlane, Maricopa County
Regina Marette, Maricopa County
Alexia Grady, Maricopa County

1. Call to Order

At 9:34 a.m., Rachel Milne, the Chair, called to order the March 17, 2022 Maricopa HOME Consortium Public Meeting, held virtually as a response to COVID-19.

2. Roll Call

Regina Marette called the roll, and a quorum was established.

3. Approval of Minutes (2/17/22)

Rachel Milne called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2022 monthly HOME Consortium Public Meeting. Matt Hess motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Melanie Dykstra and passed unanimously.

4. HUD Updates

Rachel Milne welcomed Stephanie Knox from HUD to speak to the members regarding her updates. Stephanie advised the members to feel free to ask questions during her presentation. Stephanie stated that the March 14th COC Awards have been announced. She went on to detail that Arizona had 85 renewals and \$52 million allocated. She also informed the group that the grant agreements are not done, but is looking forward to getting them soon.

Stephanie notified the members that the Office of Housing will be hosting a training relevant to home buying and rehabilitation projects. She stated she will share that information with Rachel to disperse should anyone want to attend. She also notified the members that there will be a 4-part video series regarding Covid Waivers that will detail additional information on the waivers. She stated that this information will also be shared with the members.

Stephanie then detailed several helpful IDIS and HUDEXchange reports available to the members that may assist with their HOME projects and briefly summarized several of them.

Stephanie then asked for questions from the members. Regina Marette asked if Stephanie had any updates regarding a planned increase on the maximum subsidy limit? Regina reminded members that the current limit is well below the median sales prices of houses in the County. Stephanie stated that

she had no information regarding that subject at this time. Stephanie did relay to the members that she will make a note of the concern and elevate it to her director. Stephanie also stated that she has no further information on when the release of the announcement of allocations for funding for CDBG and HOME.

5. Maricopa County: HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and Annual Action Plan

Regina gave the following updates to the Consortium.

HOME-ARP Allocation Plan comment period ended February 28th. The Plan will then be scheduled on the Board of Supervisors agenda for March 23rd and then the Plan will be submitted to HUD.

Action Plan – The County has received all contributions and will be sending out emails with questions as needed. The comment period is estimated to start March 25th, and the April HOME Consortium meeting will be the public hearing on the draft plan.

The County ran the number of homes sold in the consortium jurisdiction for February 2022 (3,036 homes sold) and will be submitting a request to HUD as part of the AAP to increase the 95 percent of the median homeowner value limit to the median sales price which is now \$476,000. This limit increase will not require any separate approval process.

Rachel then asked Stephanie what the approximate turnaround time could be for approval on the HOME- ARP plan. Stephanie advised that a week is a good estimation and briefly explained the approval process to the members. Stephanie also advised the members that HUD plans on providing additional guidance in the future and that guidance will be shared.

6. Roundtable Consortium Member Discussion

Consortium members gave updates on their HOME-ARP allocation plan activities. At the conclusion, Stephanie asked about how the members will be implementing the preferences in their HOME-ARP plan? Regina explained that the members have indicated all preferences will be served to cover the various types of programs and that the preferences will be determined on a project-by-project basis. She explained they did so to be able to include all the qualifying populations and all the eligible activities in a wide variety of diverse projects planned throughout the HOME Consortium. She also noted that the City of Scottsdale included in the Plan service to Seniors as a subpopulation.

7. Call to Public

The public had no comment.

8. Adjournment

There being no other business, the Chair entertained a motion for adjournment by Renee Ayres and seconded by Melanie Dykstra the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexia Grady

Alexia Grady, Recording Secretary