

Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2024, 1PM

Attendees

Heather Bromberg
Mike Giuffrida
Lola Harvey
Paul LaMarr
Stephanie Lovergine

Jazmine Molina
Derek Stein
Rayyan Tirmizi
Leah Topek-Walker
Terri Tupper

Shameeka White
Kimberly Wilder
Cecilia Yat

INTRODUCTIONS

UPDATES

1. Post-Election Impact – Paul LaMarr

- President-Elect Trump has named Scott Turner as his nominee for HUD Secretary. During the previous Trump Administration, Mr. Turner worked closely with former HUD Secretary Ben Carson. Mr. Carson is the author of the chapter on HUD in Project 2025
- Project 2025 outlines a series of draconian proposals that would fundamentally change HUD, including:
 - i. Ending progressive policies
 - ii. Repealing initiatives relating to climate change
 - iii. Repealing Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing practices
 - iv. Ending Housing First policies
 - v. Minimize the federal government’s ability to affect local land use and zoning decisions
 - vi. Prioritize any and all legislative support for the single-family home
 - vii. Oppose any efforts to weaken single-family zoning

2. Suffolk County Legislature Welfare to Work Commission Report – Paul LaMarr

- In September 2024, the commission released a report titled "Suffolk County Desperately Needs Affordable Housing for Low- and Moderate-Income People”
- Some of the report’s finding:
 - i. In Suffolk County, 17.1% of the housing stock are rental units. In comparison, Westchester County’s rental stock is 35.5%
 - ii. 51% of all people living on Long Island are cost-burdened (spending greater than 30% of their monthly income on housing). 60% of Suffolk renters are cost-burdened
 - iii. According to Suffolk DSS, the average cost to provide emergency shelter for a family is \$8,000 per month

- iv. Average waitlist time for Housing Choice Vouchers is 30 months
 - v. The commission concluded that Suffolk County needs a coordinated approach to addressing the region's affordable housing crisis
 - vi. The report calls for a countywide summit of town, village and county officials to begin a conversation about establishing a countywide coordinated effort to create affordable housing for households with an income below \$70,000
3. State and Local Legislation Updates – Derek Stein
- ERASE Racism/LI Housing Coalition met with Governor Hochul's staff to express their support for a number of pieces of state legislation, including:
 - i. Fairness in Cooperative Homeownership Act – extends human rights protections to cooperative housing
 - ii. Legislation requiring municipalities to develop a housing action plan
 - iii. Legislation requiring Homes and Community Renewal to report data on building permits
 - iv. Legislation to extend fair housing standards to home appraisals. Currently, appraisals are not required to do any fair housing training and ERASE Racism has received reports of discriminatory practices.
 - On a local level, the organization has been providing support for the Melville Town Center Overlay District. The proposed new zone was placed on the December 10th Town of Huntington Town Council Meeting and could also come to a vote.
 - The City of Glen Cove will be voting on a proposed Transit Oriented Development. The city also recently passed a resolution to adopt the NYS Pro-Housing Communities Pledge
 - ERASE Racism/LIHC has been meeting with newly elected officials on Long Island to gauge their stance on affordable housing
4. Homeless Bill of Rights (HBR)
- Leah updated on the stalled progress of the HBR, initially drafted in response to criminalization of homelessness.
 - The bill aims to protect the basic human rights of homeless individuals.
 - Discussion on re-engaging local legislators for support, particularly Assemblyman Richburg.
 - Kimberly suggested creating a social media presence to promote the bill and its importance. She also recommended going out in teams to meet with local elected officials.
5. PIT Count
- Rayyan provided an update on the CoC planning team's effort in organizing the 2025 PIT count.
6. Regional Strategic Plan

- Paul introduced the goal of developing a regional strategic plan to reduce homelessness by 2025.
- The plan will involve community engagement to identify gaps and assets in addressing homelessness.
- Leah emphasized the importance of including voices of those experiencing homelessness in the planning process.
- Terry raised concerns about how to effectively reach out to the homeless community for their input.
- Mike suggested using data to identify communities most impacted by homelessness.

7. Action Steps & Next Meeting

- Paul suggested doing a group asset mapping exercise during next month's meeting. This activity can help the group gain an understanding of their cumulative assets and networks. He will send a brief worksheet out prior to next month's meeting.
- To help move the HBR forward, the group agreed that arranging meetings with local elected officials would be a good starting point. Paul will send out a list of targeted elected officials for the group to decide who they would like to reach out to.
- Next month's meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 1PM