

**ABCD Baltimore City Committee General Meeting
Friday, November 19, 2010 9:00am**

Minutes

9:00 Welcome and Introductions

9:10 Guest presenter: Julie Day, Deputy Commissioner, Land Resources, Baltimore Housing

Presentation on "Vacants to Values"—City's new Blight Elimination plan; announced on 11/3. Sprung out of the "Land Bank" idea.

Includes 6 Strategies:

- 1) Streamlining the disposition process
 - a) reorganization within the land resources division
 - b) scaling back acquisitions; only strategic
 - c) hire a director of marketing; recognition of our assets, not liabilities
 - d) removal of department responsibility codes
 - e) tax sale and foreclosures moved out from comptroller; immediate responsibility to HCD
 - f) amended the appraisal policy
 - g) amended the lien abatement policy
 - h) approval to sell some MCC properties by auction (will be used judiciously)
- 2) Code Enforcement:
 - a) shifting from a litigation model to an administrative model
 - b) citations will be automatically generated after 90 days (\$900 fine)
- 3) Facility investment in emerging markets near areas of strength
- 4) Targeted incentives
 - a) revolving loan fund for construction (early spring)
 - b) grants for potential homebuyers to assist with closing costs
- 5) Support large-scale development in distressed areas
- 6) Maintain, clear, hold and identify non-housing uses

Planning a Summit to be held, possibly in late January to find ways to build on this plan and bring ideas to our staff and the Mayor.

Link to more information:

http://www.baltimorehousing.org/wgo_detail.aspx?id=417

9:55 Committee Reports

Public Resources Committee update (Shannon S. and Bill M.)

Currently focused, jointly with Leadership Team, on quarterly meetings with Housing Commissioner and staff. No meeting announced at this time.

Vacant Properties Committee update (Jim K.)

Next meeting is 12/2 at 9:15 at UB Business Center; Michael Braverman from Housing will discuss Code Enforcement updates as a result of the Vacants to Values plan.

9:55 Leadership team update

Activities as of late, include a meeting with the Deputy Mayor, Parthomos on 11/3; Presentation to the City Council on 11/15; and Meeting with Housing Commissioner and Staff on 11/18.

(add) Homelessness committee

Committee to focus on the issues around homelessness is currently forming. If you are interested in joining this group, let the two co-chairs know (Jennifer Corcoran and Mary Chestnut). Look for more information in the coming months.

9:45 State Update (Karen B.)

Currently working on the 4 year policy agenda. Will be working with MAHC on this agenda. At a minimum we'll be looking for level funding at the state level; also be encouraging increased resources through creative funding sources (PRI's for example)

Also working on the industry report. Will be contacting individuals soon to finalize the survey that will be used to develop the report.

In May we will be co-hosting a 2 day Green Summit with Habitat for Humanity of Maryland.

Also, we received a grant from the Abell Foundation to further investigate the land bank concept and how to implement in Baltimore. Will be working with the leadership team and City committee on this after the first of the year.

10:30 Announcements

- A. Inclusionary Housing Bill (Tammy Mayer, CPHA)
- B. Other announcements
- C. Need location for December meeting

**Next ABCD City Committee General meeting will be Friday, December 17th at 9am.
Guest Presenter will be Sara Johnson, Director, Baltimore CASH Campaign**