



May Standing Committee & Initiative Reports

Homeownership Committee

In May, the Homeownership Committee planned a series of activities to commemorate Homeownership Month—including a lender panel for the June GNOHA general meeting.

Own the Crescent

OTC is preparing to restart its operations. It developed a narrative explaining a shared solutions model to introduce to members who would want to participate in the program. OTC is also recruiting prospects to pilot the Third Line Initiative.

Rental Committee

The Rental Committee met with the Housing Authority of New Orleans in the first week of May to discuss Utility Allowances and will be moving forward with that partnership to obtain necessary utility data. The Committee also met with Lindsay Robbins from the National Resources Defense Council to discuss multi-family housing and utilities. Right now, the committee is working on drafting GNOHA's comments to the Integrated Resource Plan which are due June 30th. The Committee is also anticipating the release of the Qualified Action Plan by the Louisiana Housing Corporation. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 7th.

Outreach and Advocacy Committee

The Outreach and Advocacy Committee now has over 15 active members who will be working with GNOHA to advocate around GNOHA's agenda, including the implementation of the HousingNOLA strategies. Outreach and Advocacy worked with the Policy Committee to oppose the text amendments to the CZO that would have changed density zoning ordinances. The committee is also partnering with Own the Crescent for a Homeownership Event on June 18th. The event will include free homeownership classes and GNOHA members will be able to do outreach at the event.

GNOHA pursued advocacy against SB288 after hearing from Ashleigh Gardere (City of New Orleans) about the consequences of such legislation for special contracts that aim to develop New Orleans' workforce. That bill was soundly defeated. GNOHA was also in full support of SB347 (Living Wage) and absolutely opposed to the anti-immigrant "Sanctuary City" Bills (HB151 and HB453). The Sanctuary Cities bills were defeated as well. Letters were sent in May to the State Legislature regarding HB610 (Uniform Taxation for Affordable Housing Developments), and the Governor signed the bill.

GNOHA attended and/or live tweeted the following public meetings/hearings:

- District B Townhall Meeting, May 2nd, City Council Chambers
- City Council Meeting, May 5th, City Council Chambers
- State Office of Community Development Disaster Recovery Programs Briefing for Legislative Staff, May 9th



- Who's in Your Neighborhood, Current Trends and Changing Neighborhoods, May 10th, Total Community Action
- LHC Board of Directors Meeting, May 11th
- City Council Community Development Committee Meeting, May 11th
- Kenner Housing Authority Board Meeting, May 11th
- St. John the Baptist Housing Authority Board Meeting, May 16th
- Red Beans Roundtable: Affordable Housing, May 16th, Tulane City Center
- Westwego Housing Authority Board Meeting, May 17th
- Jefferson Parish Housing Authority Board Meeting, May 18th
- City Planning Commission Meeting, May 24th

Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee completed and submitted the Office of Community Development's Action Plan Questionnaire on GNOHA's behalf. The Policy Committee is developing GNOHA's comments to send to the LHC regarding Louisiana Housing Trust Fund dollars and the State's Consolidated Plan and the committee is also developing comments on HANO's Agency Plan which are due June 14 before the organization's public hearing that evening.

For Mold/Dampness, the committee are making slow but sure progress. Staff is in contact with the people behind successful advocacy and legislation in Dallas and San Francisco. The committee is also planning to work with the Homebuilders Association's Advanced Building Practices Council to determine the best course of action to develop building practices that would eliminate or reduce dampness. For Short Term Rental, staff has developed a "letter to the editor" that outlines GNOHA's position for various planning magazines. For the HUD Rule on over-income residents in public housing, the committee reached out to Cheryl Breaux at HUD to determine the deadlines for comment and/or the status of the rule.

Insurance Sub-Committee

The Insurance sub-committee did not have a meeting this month, however the sub-committee has arranged a meeting for June with Insurance Commissioner Donelon to discuss the upcoming initiatives including a proposed pilot program that could address homeowner insurance rates.

Assessor's Working Group

In the assessor's working group, the idea is to work up a letter to Errol Williams as we move forward with the inception of the group.

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Hurricane Season began June 1st and GNOHA is working towards getting its members and GNOHA ready in case of a disaster. The May GNOHA meeting was a Continuity of Operations Training through Evacuteer, in which 16



GNOHA members were trained on how to prepare their organizations for disasters. This Committee will hold its next meeting on Thursday, June 16th.

Louisiana Homebuyer Education Collaborative

The Collaborative did not meet in May. There was a board meeting to discuss the merger of the Collaborative into GNOHA and revise the current certification list. The NCRC trainings planned for June have been moved to July and the next full Collaborative meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 23rd.

Road Home Liaison Group:

As of June 10th, the GNOHA Road Home Liaison Group (RHLG) has relieved 200 applicants of their debt to the Road Home Program through compliance or establishing occupancy. An additional 66 files have been archived due to the death of the grant recipient. A total of \$12.7 million dollars has been applied to Road Home recipients' cases. Of this \$558,087.03, has been closed on for construction. Eleven (11) homes have been funded for construction, one (1) of which is completed. Several projects remain in the pipeline for closing. The RHLG reconvened the Non-Profit Roundtable in the month of May. At this time, four (4) new cases were presented to and accepted by the non-profit partners. RHLG expects the supply for the Roundtable to increase in the months to come. The next Roundtable meeting will be Wednesday June 22nd. At this time, five (5) new cases are expected to be presented to the group.

HousingNOLA:

The May HousingNOLA Leadership Board meeting featured a presentation on Inclusionary Housing to provide an overview of the study that is being conducted to determine if Inclusionary Housing could be used in to create additional affordable housing with the help of market rate developers. HousingNOLA is also preparing comments to integrate the *10 Year Strategy and Implementation Plan* into the city's Master Plan via the current process.

Capacity Building

The Capacity Building team created and sent out a capacity building assessment for homebuyer education organizations and CHDOS. The assessment will cover program management, financials, and long term operations plans. A HUD review team assembled to evaluate the assessments and determined more information was needed from several organizations.

Workforce Housing Group

The Workforce Housing Study Group has been reviewing Lafourche Parish's workforce housing study. The co-chairs, New Orleans Business Alliance and Greater New Orleans, Inc., met to draft an initial plan to deploy a process in accordance with HousingNOLA.