



**MINUTES**  
**FAIR HOUSING TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2012**  
**3:36 pm**

The Fair Housing Task Force Committee met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order 3:36 p.m. Task Force Chair Ms. Taylor Moreno present and presiding and the following Committee Members answered roll call:

**Members Present**

Ms. Veronica Carbajal  
Ms. Alma Miller  
Mr. Jerry Romero  
Mr. Marc Salazar  
Mr. Sergio Vasquez

**Members Absent**

Mr. Rafael Hernando III

**Late Arrivals**

None

**Early Departures**

Taylor Moreno at 4:30 p.m., Jerry Romero Chaired

**Ex-Office Members present**

Bill Bennett  
Victor Morrison-Vega

**Staff Present**

Rhoda Tillman, CDBTG Contract Administrator and Fair Housing Officer

**Agenda**

Discussion and Action on:

2. Approval of Steering Committee Minutes of September 4, 2012 – Taylor Moreno, Chairperson
3. Discussion of the Fair Housing Education and Outreach Projects for Fair Housing Month 2013
4. Discussion of the City of El Paso Monitoring Private Sector Accessible Units (Complexes consisting of five or more units.)
5. Presentation of the Demand for Accessible Type A Apartment Units in the City of El Paso Texas - Roberto Tinajero, Assistant Director and Lisa M Tomaka, MS, MPA, Institute for Policy and Economic Development (IPED), The University of Texas at El Paso
6. Discussion and Approval of the Next Meeting Date
7. Adjournment

Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum

Motion was made by Mr. Salazar, seconded by Mr. Romero and unanimously passed to approve September 4, 2012 minutes as corrected.

AYES: Ms. Carbajal; Ms. Miller; Mr. Romeo; Mr. Salazar; Mr. Vasquez

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Hernando II

Item 3: Discussion of the Fair Housing Education and Outreach Projects for Fair Housing Month 2013

Members concurred that the Fair Housing Task Force will present a Fair Housing Month Proclamation to City Council on April 2, 2013. It was also agreed to hold the first joint venture fair housing outreach and education function for fair housing in the El Paso Community. Presently, the primary agencies represented would consist of the City of El Paso, Fair Housing Task Force, the City of El Paso Housing Authority and Volar CIL in conjunction with the Federal Reserve Smart Money week and others, as identified. Ms. Maureen Hankins, YWCA, Education and Outreach Program, for the City of El Paso, will coordinate the first planning meeting to consist of task force members Ms. Moreno, Mr. Romero, Mr. Salazar, and Mr. Vasquez. Mr. Enrique Chew will represent Volar CIL and has requested to include Ms. Catalina Estala and Maria Perez from Volar at the meetings. The first meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2013.

Item 4: Discussion of the City of El Paso Monitoring Private Sector Accessible Units (Complexes consisting of five or more units.)

Information requested and provided by Southwest Fair Housing Council, who compiled the City of El Paso Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice as well as others, indicated that in their experience they had not found accessible units being converted into non-accessible units. Nor were they aware of any organizations or municipalities that verify that units are still accessible once a project gets is given a Certificate of Occupancy.

Discussion concurred that since an apartment is a tenant's home and State Law protects each tenant rights, changing laws and/or ordinances to allow for inspection of units after completion would be extremely difficult. Discussion recognized that some units may be modified on a temporary basis but until data indicates that private sector apartment complexes, of five or more units, are being significantly converted into non-accessible units that inspection by the City is not warranted.

Item 5: Presentation of the Demand for Accessible Type A Apartment Units in the City of El Paso, Texas - Roberto Tinajero, Assistant Director and Lisa M Tomaka, MS, MPA, Institute for Policy and Economic Development (IPED), The University of Texas at El Paso.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Vasquez moved that task force members continue their review of the Analysis, but that the Department of Community and Human

Development present the Analysis to City Council as soon as possible, Ms. Miller seconded and the motion passed.

AYES: Ms. Carbajal; Ms. Miller; Mr. Romeo; Mr. Salazar; Mr. Vasquez

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Hernando II; Ms. Moreno

Members agreed to send their comments to Rhoda. She will be forward to the members for further review and consideration. Members requested further discussion of a data base which would connect the supply and the demand of accessible apartment units verses testing/enforcement should be held. Members requested the Director and Board Chair of the El Paso Apartment Association be invited to join in this discussion.

Item 6: Discussion and Approval of the Next Meeting Date

Due to New Year's holiday, the next meeting will be January 8, 2013.

Item 7: Motion made by Mr. Vasquez, seconded by Ms. Carbajal and unanimously carried to adjourn this meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Approved as to form:

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Rhoda Tillman, Board Secretary