




MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LTC # 167-2008

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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: June 18, 2008

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The purpose of this LTC is to update the Mayor and City Commission on the appointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC).

On May 21, 2008, the following eight (8) appointments were made to AHAC:

1. **Not Filled (residential home building industry)**
2. David Smith (banking or mortgage banking industry)
3. **Not Filled (representative of labor actively engaged in home building)**
4. Ada Llerandi (advocate for low-income persons)
5. Robert Saland (for-profit provider of affordable housing)
6. Roberto Datorre (not-for-profit provider of affordable housing)
7. Michael Bernstein (real estate professional)
8. Jonathan Fryd (serves on the planning agency)
9. Clark Reynolds (resident)
10. Dr. Barry Ragone (represents employers)
11. **Not Filled (represents essential services personnel)**

On June 1, 2008, an advertisement was placed in the *Miami Herald* soliciting applications from City residents and/or business owners who are interested in serving on AHAC in the vacant categories. The advertisement requested that all applications be returned to the City Clerk no later than Friday, June 13, 2008.

In response to the advertisement, and as it relates to category number 1 (citizen actively engaged in the residential home building industry), the following person submitted a resume and application for consideration:

- **David H. Gorson, Manager, The Development Group of South Florida**

In response to staff solicitation regarding category 11, (one income-eligible citizen who represents essential services personnel, as defined in the local housing assistance plan), the following person submitted a resume and application for consideration:

- **Lianne Pastoriza, Employee, Mount Sinai Medical Center**

Additionally, the following person, who also applied to serve on the Capital Improvement Projects Oversight Committee, has expressed an interest and requests consideration:

- **Kumar Prakash, Resident and Business Owner**

Finally, the following person submitted a resume and application. Commissioner Libbin has also expressed an interest in nominating:

- **Brian Scott Ehrlich, Assistant to the Chairman, The Related Group**

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AHAC Committee

In the meantime, the Florida Housing Coalition conducted a conference call between State staff and municipalities on June 3rd to clarify the composition regulations for the newly created AHAC. During this conference call, State staff confirmed that **all eleven (11) committee members must be appointed by resolution by June 30, 2008, or the jurisdiction will not be eligible for funding.** Subsequent vacancies and substitutions may be resolved by each municipality's internal policies and regulations. However, State staff explained that Florida Statute 420.9076(2) governing the establishment of the AHAC, states:

"If a county or eligible municipality whether due to its small size, the presence of a conflict of interest by prospective appointees, or other reasonable factor, is unable to appoint a citizen actively engaged in these activities in connection with affordable housing, a citizen engaged in the activity without regard to affordable housing may be appointed."

State staff cautioned that any appointments made without regard to affordable housing, and the rationale for those decisions, must be thoroughly documented.

As always, please feel free to call me should you have any questions.

JMG/HF/AP

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