upper explorerland regional planning commission

Serving Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek Counties
134 West Greene Street, Postville, Iowa 52162
Phone: 563-864-7551
Fax: 563-864-7535
www.uerpc.org

Upper Explorerland RHA
Meeting Minutes / March 25, 2021 / 1:00 pm
Upper Explorerland / Postville

Members Present: Hodan Farah
Members Absent: Gwen Harris and Subrina Strong
Staff Present: Heidi Hackman, Karine Schager, Kayla Miller, and Katelyn Peterson

The Resident Advisory Board met on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at Upper Explorerland in Postville at 1:00 pm. Heidi Hackman, Housing Department Head, called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

Heidi Hackman, Housing Department Head, began the meeting with introductions and an overview of the agency plan. The background was explained along with the annual requirements and Heidi confirmed that all participants on the rental assistance program were invited to attend.

Heidi went through each section of the FY 2020 5-year plan. In Section B, Heidi pointed out that all staff took a AFHMP eLearning course on 3/9/21 to ensure that everyone is up to date on fair housing and treats everyone equal and fairly. It was also pointed out that we are working to implement the Foster Youth Initiative Program to prevent homelessness to young adults in our region who have grown up in and aged out of the foster care system.

Financial resources were identified.

The progress report for the last year:

- Expand the supply of Assisted housing – we completed and fulfilled our Tenant Based Rental Assistance Award from Iowa Finance Authority.
- Due to staffing changes and Covid-19, we continue to strive for High Performer Status
- Housing Voucher Homeownership program continues to support one family. We will continue to work on promoting the homeownership program.
- The Agency continues to ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing. RHA staff will be attending Essentials of Fair Housing and the AFHMP eLearning course in March of 2021.

Most Resent Fiscal Year Audit: HUD housing assistance payments were $1,377,84, Total operating revenue was $1,652,067, Net position at end of FY 20 was $110,374. We were able to recover $1,968 in fraud recovery. We had one finding during the audit of a miscalculation of income. This was promptly corrected by staff and a check was issued to the tenant to rectify the overpayment of rent.

Heidi explained that the Agency Plan is available for public comment and a public hearing is set for March 31st at 10 am via teleconference. A 45-day notice is required for the public hearing and was sent out on February 12, 2021. This plan is also posted on the website at uerpc.org.

There were not any other comments or concerns relating to the agency plan and the meeting adjourned at 1:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Katelyn Peterson – UERPC Community Housing Assistant