



MINUTES
OXFORD HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION
3RD FLOOR LOBBY
20 SOUTH ELM STREET
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025 AT 5:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Members Present: Amber Franklin, Anne Bailey, Jason Bracken, Mary Piper, Ann Fuehrer, Jock Pitts

Staff Liaison: Jessica Greene

Called to Order at 5:02 PM

Approval of Agenda:

First: Jason Bracken

Second: Jock Pitts

Any modifications: Add an update to Habitat and Empower Me Developments

Approved

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes:

First: Jason Bracken

Second: Mary Piper

Any modifications: Jock's name was spelled wrong; please correct.

Approved

Public Comment:

- Aidan Cornue, editor of the Oxford Free Press, introduced a new student reporter.
- Owen Martin, MU Student, expressed interest in joining HAC.
- Tomoko Brown shared that she attended as an interested citizen.

1. Minutes from the September 4th, 2025 Meeting

Old Business

1. Continued Discussion of Long-Term Sheltering Needs in Oxford

Sheltering Approaches: Ann F. raised the continued discussion of long-term sheltering approaches. She shared that she felt that the group had consensus to proceed with a permanent supportive housing approach. Jessica shared that she felt that it was more up in the air with no direction for the staff.

After the group discussion, the commission directed staff to focus on research and projects related to Permanent Supportive Housing and to bring back ideas.

HAC will ask OASH/Faith coalition to lead the cold shelter, report back on how it worked, including their learning from year one, and explore the operations of emergency sheltering.

The Oxford Vineyard Church will produce a report on expenditures and the demographics of those served through the 2025-2026 cold shelter program.

New Business

Empower Me:

Jessica shared that the development agreement for Empower Me Living (EML) will be on the City Council agenda under the name of Inclusive Housing Resources (IHR) on 10/7/25. EML and IHR were joint applicants on their RFP. After months of negotiation, we recognized the need for a single lead development partner, and IHR emerged as the primary point of contact for the formal development agreement. Publicly, EML and IHR remain joint partners on the project, but behind the scenes, the city will contract with IHR as the more experienced developer. It was also explained that a compromise had been reached regarding the developer's insurance.

Habitat for Humanity:

Jessica shared that Habitat for Humanity is seeking additional funding for infrastructure following a major, but necessary, change to the sewer line. They can still begin the project, but increased funding will keep the costs of the house down for the future owner. Jessica intends to request additional funds from Butler County's ARPA allocation.

Public Comment:

- A student reporter inquired about the development agreement for IHR and requested some details regarding insurance. Jessica responded that the agenda with the full development agreement language will be posted for review on Friday, October 3rd, on the agenda portal, and to call with questions after reading the document.

1. Upcoming Source of Income Discrimination Ordinance

Jessica shared the draft ordinance to prohibit discrimination in housing based on source of income, drafted by Councilors Raghu and Smith. After an initial review by the city attorney, she

informed the commission that the code section will be 741, the business regulation section.

Jessica reminded the commission that the city attorney shared research on several types of legislation in early 2025, and that it emerged as a viable policy. This policy was also recommended in our meeting with Legal Aid.

It was shared that this policy will be hard to enforce and that assistance from local nonprofits will help people understand their rights.

Feedback and questions from the commission:

- Where does a complaint go?
- Can fines from the ordinance go to the housing trust fund?
- Is section 4 severability needed?
- Can a private person sue a landlord under this ordinance?
- Please have Home Cincy and Legal Aid review this policy.

Jessica shared that she would research these questions and suggestions and try to incorporate them into the next draft of the ordinance, which is planned to be on the City Council agenda on 10/21/25.

Jock Pitts made a motion to endorse the intent of the "ordinance to prohibit discrimination in housing based on source of income," pending further review by legal teams and housing advocates. Second: Amber Franklin. Motion passed.

Public Comment: If a landlord is found guilty of this ordinance, how would the public know?

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn:

First: Jason Bracken

Second: Amber Franklin

Approved

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, November 6th, 2025 at 5 PM

Thursday, December 4th, 2025 at 5 PM