



SUMMARY: STEERING COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE: MAY 31, 2017

President Steve Merritt called the meeting to order; LaTonya Rajah called the roll and a quorum was established.

Action Item – To support the nomination of Pam Patenaude as HUD Deputy Secretary.

The Steering Committee received Ms. Patenaude’s bio and resume prior to the teleconference.

Action: Motion by Dianne Hovdestad and second by Ed Mayer to direct staff to prepare a letter of support for the nomination of Pam Patenaude as HUD Deputy Secretary. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Comments

President Merritt urged members to encourage their peers to register for the summer conference. At this time registration numbers are trending low (nearly 300). Attendance is budget at 650.

Duane Hopkins announced that he was recently elected MPRC Regional President for the 2017-2019 term.

Vice President Julie Brewen reported that IRGE had filed on behalf of NAHRO the Quadrennial Report to the United Nations. In 2015, the United Nations (UN) granted NAHRO the privilege of participating in specific activities as a non-governmental organization (NGO). In return, each year NAHRO is expected to contribute to the work of the UN. NGOs advise the UN of activities undertaken by submitting a quadrennial report. The 2017 report is attached and submitted online, also.

There being no further business, President Merritt adjourned meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Steve Merritt, Carl Richie, Duane Hopkins, Donovan Duncan, Donna Brown Rego, Julie Brewen, Joseph D’Ascoli, David Baldwin, Sunny Shaw, DeeAnna Peterson, Ed Mayer, Dianne Hovdestad, Clif Martin and Mike Gerber.

Absent: Rick Leco, Regina Mitchell, Darrin Taylor, Joseph Lamagna, Sharon Carlson, Don May, Dan Trozzi, Betsey Martens Akinola Popoola and Preston Prince. **Staff:** Georgi Banna, John Bohm, Sylvia Bowen and LaTonya Rajah. **Incoming Staff:** Adrienne Todman

PART I

Introduction

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is the leading housing and community development advocate for the provision of adequate and affordable housing and strong, viable communities for all Americans— particularly those with low- and moderate-incomes. Our members administer federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs such as Public Housing, Section 8 rental assistance Vouchers, Community Development Block Grants and the HOME rental assistance program.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of NAHRO are to inspire and engage professionals in housing, community development, finance, government, and social services in collaboration with residents to create attainable and sustainable housing and communities for vulnerable families and individuals.

Significant changes in the organization

The NAHRO Chief Executive Officer resigned in 2016. An extensive search for a new Chief Executive Officer was set in motion, with Adrienne Todman named to start in June 2017.

PART II

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

NAHRO's work during the reporting period consisted of following the development of the Habitat III Conference (HIII). NAHRO's contribution included widespread publicity of the HIII among its 18,000 members and a major effort to engage in the planning and attendance at the Conference. Publicity and follow up activity is being planned to monitor NAHRO's work in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and engage the membership in specific activities that implement and further those goals.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

NAHRO actively engaged with the preparations of the Habitat III Conference and actively stimulated member attendance at the Conference at which 11 NAHRO members attended. A NAHRO member was selected to serve on one of ten policy units leading up to Habitat III. Earlier in the reporting period, NAHRO members participated in the activities leading up to the Conference. These included meetings in Washington, D.C. in December 2014 and Denver, Colorado in April 2016. A NAHRO member participated in the General Assembly of Partners and will continue that work as part of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Beyond these, NAHRO members participated in the World Urban Forums in 2014 and 2016.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

NAHRO members have worked with the UN in the lead up to the Habitat III Conference. NAHRO, through its International Research and Global Exchange Committee (IRGE) had a senior committee member chosen to serve on the Urban Services and Technology Policy Unit.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In the reporting period, NAHRO supported both the Millennium Development Goals and then the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) that became effective in 2016. With regard to these goals, NAHRO's work as an NGO specializing in social housing and urban regeneration relates to SDG's numbers 1, 5, 8 and 11.

1. Reducing poverty; NAHRO members administer 2,683 assisted housing agencies with 7.9 million low income occupants. This housing is a major bulwark against poverty and homelessness.

5. Gender equality: a number of NAHRO agencies have specialized housing, counseling and support services for formerly incarcerated or homeless women and single mothers.

8. Economic growth: NAHRO promotes and agency members develop a myriad of economic development programs. Some deal with generating employment of lower income persons and others address support increased economic activity in both urban and rural areas.

11. Human Settlements: As the industry devoted to decent housing and a suitable living environment, NAHRO is the premier American NGO advocating for affordable housing, viable and vibrant human settlements.

Additional Information

NAHRO members participated in international meetings with the International Urban Development Association (INTA), the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA). NAHRO also signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Australasian Housing Institute (AHI) and renewed agreements with INTA and CHRA. NAHRO published its first full length research report on the growing international trend of transfer of social housing developments to the private non-profit sector. The outcomes of this practice was studied in the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Canada and the United States.