



SUMMARY OF STEERING COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE: MARCH 9, 2016

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

Action item: Approval of the 2016 Legislative/Regulatory Agenda

CEO Ramirez commented that the congressional relations and program policy teams presented highlights of the agenda at the Leadership Retreat in Ft. Worth. Following which, staff solicited comments from the Board of Governors and Housing and CR&D Committees. Prior to the teleconference, staff presented a revised document to the Steering Committee for its consideration, which included the following changes:

- **NAHRO's new mission, vision and value statements;**
- **Final NAHRO funding recommendations; and**
- **New language on FMRs as suggested by a Board member: "NAHRO will seek that HUD employ a methodology that accurately captures current rental markets when calculating Fair Market Rents (FMRs)."**

During the teleconference, Steering Committee members offered the following amendments:

- **Foreword: *include*: a positive, encouraging message on the importance of developing a national housing policy and acknowledge work done by Congress to move HR 3700 out of the House;**
- **Page 4, #3: *change*: regulatory reform to regulatory streamlining; and**
- **Page 4, #4: *add*: SHARP would significantly ease administrative burdens and increase program flexibility for agencies with 550 or fewer public housing units *and/or vouchers*.**

Motion by Akinola Popoola and second By Regina Mitchell to accept the 2016 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda as amended above. Motion carried

Comments/Other Business

IRGE Vice President Julie Brewen regarding Elizabeth Glenn:

A month ago, Liz Glenn was attending a meeting in preparation for Habitat III in Brussels. She became very ill. Liz developed ketoacidosis from previously undiagnosed diabetes. She was so very ill that she was taken immediately to hospital where she spent four days in intensive care followed by another five days stay in hospital before she was allowed to return home to the United States. (Evidently this is so serious that it could have led to coma or other life threatening issues.)

Liz shared because she was a special attaché to the United Nations, she was immediately given diplomatic treatment at the hospital and felt that her stay in the hospital was a very "rich experience." She is on her way to recovery but still a little weak. She will slowly return to work for a couple of hours and estimates that she has about 3,500 e-mail messages in her in-box; thus Julie, suggested sending Liz cards/letters in lieu of emails and/or phone calls.

TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Steve Merritt, Carl Richie, Julie Brewen, Donovan Duncan, Rick Leco, Regina Mitchell, Preston Prince, Akinola Popoola, Betsey Martens, David Allen Brown, DeeAnna Peterson, David Baldwin, Darrin Taylor, Ed Mayer, Dianne Hovdestad, Dan Trozzi, Sharon Carlson, Don May and Mike Gerber. **Absent:** Duane Hopkins Donna Brown Rego, Joseph D'Ascoli, Joseph Lamagna, Clif Martin and Sunny Shaw. **Staff:** Saul Ramirez, John Bohn, Jenny Hsu, Eric Oberdorfer, Tushar Gurjal and LaTonya Rajah.