

PROPERTY TAX WORKING GROUP
PROTECTING HOMEOWNERS, STRENGTHENING NEIGHBORHOODS.

Introductory Meeting Notes

Thursday, February 21, 2019 | 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Griesel Conference Room (7th Floor)
Two Centennial Plaza, 805 Central Avenue

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - 33 people attended the meeting (working group members, community members, community organization, business and community councils representatives, and City-representatives)
2. Purpose of the Working Group
3. Expectations of the Working Group
 - Guiding principles
 - i. Fairness
 - ii. Equity
 - iii. How can we strike a balance between goals/needs of residents and other stakeholders?
 - iv. Avoid generalizations and identify affected populations (seniors, limited income, etc.)
 1. What is our focus? – Seniors with limited income?
 2. Can we look at this issue from other angles?
 - v. Understand that each neighborhood is unique
 - vi. Our neighborhoods are strongest when they are diverse.
 - vii. As a working group, we need to be on the same page as this work moves forward.
 - What we need to learn
 - i. Understand what is driving development/change in neighborhoods
 - ii. What programs are currently in place to help protect homeowners and aging in place?
 - iii. Identify realities and perceptions
 - iv. Identify existing challenges > understand their causes > propose solutions
 - v. What are equitable ways of taxation?
 - vi. Look at practices/policies outside of Cincinnati
 - vii. Look into tax abatements – how does this affect what is occurring in neighborhoods?
 - viii. How do we connect limited income seniors with resources?
 - End goals
 - i. Identify conversations to be had with local, state, or federal officials
 1. Start at city then move to state and then maybe federal

- ii. Education
 1. For residents
 2. For City-employees
 3. Financial literacy
 - iii. Develop a policy that can be brought to City Council
4. Working Group Members: Who else should be at the table?
 - Legal Aid Society
 - CPS (invited already)
 - Hamilton County
 - Homeownership Center
 - HOME
 - The Treasury
 - Cincinnati Federation of Teachers
 - ProSeniors
 - A State representative
 - LISC
5. Planning for the Public Meeting
Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019 from 6-8 p.m. at Taft Elementary (270 Southern Ave)
 - What do we want to learn from community members?
 - What creative ideas do you have?
 - What is going on in your neighborhood regarding inspections?
 - What do we need to provide education on?
 - What can realistically be done about this under local and state law?
 - How are property values decided?
 - Property tax basics
 - How does the tax abatement program work?
 - Where do the taxes go?
 - Property tax v. income tax, etc.
 - Homestead Exemption Act
 - Impact of TIFs
 - Resources/programs already in place to assist residents with inspections questions
6. Next Steps
 - Continue to send questions/education topics for public meeting
 - Next meeting: Public Meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019 from 6-8 p.m. at Taft Elementary (270 Southern Ave)

Materials:

- Motion
- Contact List
- Rules of Engagement