

**UNWA Town Hall Meeting
Housing Discussion
October 14, 2004**

Facilitator: Karen Grubbs

Discussion:

What can be done to maintain good housing conditions in the neighborhood?

- Keep the drug dealer out
- Remove or demolish vacant homes
- Renovate or repair homes when the structure is good
- Keep the houses maintained
- Have input on whom moves into the community (group homes, etc)
- Identify homeowners
- Identify resources to help with repairs
- Absentee landlord and apathy of landlord
- Find funding to help the elderly maintained their homes
- Provide materials/training on home repairs
- Find and identify resources- contractors
- City involvement with dilapidated houses
- Partnership communication-homeowners/CDC
- Low interest loans and terms
- Communication of availability of funds and criteria
- Awareness for reverse mortgages
- Block clubs/awareness of neighbors/neighborhood assoc.
- Resources for people who can't qualify for UNWA's programs
- Reduced rent
- Neighbors can share skills
- Lower rental property
- Have residents take personal responsibility for vacant lots

How should problem properties be dealt with?

- Neighbors working together and being persistent
- Petition to landlord with the support from the city
- When a home is demolish one should be put in its place
- Survey homes to identify structure and condition
- Remove all eye sores
- Identify all houses that needs to be repaired and put a price for repairs
- Street and repairs
- Mix variety of houses in the neighborhood
- Sidewalk and curbs in the community
- Put businesses in the community
- Make rehab homes available to first time buyer

Visit <http://www.unwa.org/> for more information regarding the plan.

- Money to help with property up-keep
- Give fines to absentee Landlords
- Develop covenants, contracts or agreements
- Call MAC/Assessors office
- Call IPD and Health and Hospice
- Build on empty property
- Build affordable housing
- Find dollars for subsidy

What should be done about vacant lots and houses?

- Renovate homes
- Put homes on the vacant lots
- Double lots should have 4 units' condos
- Put nature walks, parks or garden on vacant lots
- Plant tree on the lots
- Give to neighbors (adjacent to vacant lot)
- Contact Landlords to get their intentions for the property
- Contact landlord to clean or board up houses
- City-owned vacant lots should be sold to the public
- CDC should buy lots and build houses
- Build a day care
- Build a variety store
- Publicize the availability of lot sales
- Lower cost of houses and lots so they can be purchase
- Survey residents to locate skills
- Survey residents to find out how community can help with repairs
- Have lots donated for youth recreation facility
- Raise eligible amount for assistance
- Partner with habitat
- Attach cost to clean up on properties
- Contact landlords
- Get city involved to see if they will provide money to build on the lots
- Get CDC to build on vacant lots

Visit <http://www.unwa.org/> for more information regarding the plan.

People who have agreed to be on the Housing Committee:

Facilitator: Karen Grubbs

Members:

Betty Alestock, Emma Burns, Betty Jiles, Lelia Lackey, Michael Marion, Toni Mathews, Jonathon Onuorah, Delores Thorton, Beverly Wells, and Phyllis Williamson

Next Meeting :

The first meeting of the Housing Committee will be Monday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m. at UNWADC at 1426 West 29th Street.

Notes taken by Tonya Caldwell, Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center

Visit <http://www.unwa.org/> for more information regarding the plan.