



Housing Task Force July 2021 Report
to Patton Township Board of Supervisors
Patton Township Planning Commission and Patton Township Citizens

The 18-member Patton Township Housing Task Force continues to meet monthly by zoom with many members involved in research and housing discussions between meetings.

- **Regional Focus on “Attainable” Housing**

--Task Force Co-chairs Nicole Pollock and Anita Thies represented Patton Township in a zoom meeting June 25 on Affordable Housing sponsored by The Centre County Association of Realtors® Board and the Builders Association of Central PA Board. Attending were realtors, municipal and county elected officials, housing professionals, and members of our Task Force.

--Participants discussed how best to communicate the housing challenge. Some speak of it as “affordable” housing; others call it “workforce” housing. Many are speaking of “attainable” housing since many residents struggle to find housing that is attainable for their incomes, including those with annual salaries of \$60,000 or more.

--Task Force member Rachel Fawcett shared an example of a **“one stop shop” website** of the Pottstown Housing Coalition that provides resources for homeowners, homebuyers, renters, and housing professionals. See: <https://pottstownhousing.org/> Our Task Force sees the need for Centre County to develop a similar website.
- **CNET Public Service Spots on Housing**

--Thanks to Township Manager Doug Erickson, the Task Force has connected with CNET to produce some short public service spot this fall on the housing challenge. Members of a Task Force subgroup working to provide CNET with materials for their production are Kate Domico, chair of our visioning group; Stephanie Fost, co-chair of our housing group; Rachel Fawcett, chair of our zoning group; Morgan Wasikonis, Executive Director of Housing Transitions; resident representatives Steven Rogers and Tony Buda and the Task Force co-chairs.

--The goal is to have the CNET videos ready for public viewing at the beginning of October.

--The Task Force is planning to introduce its full report and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at the October 27 Board meeting.

- **Habitat for Humanity House Tour**



Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Stephanie Fost, (left) co-chair of our housing group, hosted a tour July 14 of a Habitat House in Woodycrest. The house will soon become home to a local school teacher and her children.



Among the Housing Task Force members who toured the Habitat Home are (from left) Jim Payne, Anita Thies, Morgan Wasikonis, Tony Buda, Stephanie Fost, Nicole Pollock and Rachel Fawcett.

- **Community and Housing Land Trusts**

Presenting at the July 20 meeting of the Task Force are the Directors of the Centre County Housing and Land Trust, Missy Schoonover, and the State College Community Land Trust, Colleen Ritter.

- **Next Meeting August 17**

The next Housing Task Force Meeting will be from 3 to 5 pm Tuesday August 17 by zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Anita Thies, Patton Township Supervisor and Task Force co-chair (along with co-chair Nicole Pollock, Senior Planner, Centre Regional Planning Agency.)