

Meeting Ad hoc Committee Short-Term rentals

January 25, 2023
Amana Church Fellowship Hall

Committee: Louis Caspers, Cherie Hansen-Rieskamp, Norine Magee, Elizabeth Momany, Elisha TePoel

ACLUD Administrator: Richard Budde

Guests: Jeff Conquest, David Forbes, Lauren Fortune (Zoom), Melissa Henley, Sonya LaGrange, Joe Parcell

Meeting began at 6:33 pm

1. Chair and Vice Chair

Betsy Momany was elected chair and Elisha TePoel Vice Chair by consensus.

2. Timeline and products

An ordinance regarding short-term rentals by March 31, 2023 to be reviewed by the lawyer and BOT.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the power of the ACLUD to control short-term rentals through an ordinance designed to limit their number, density, and location. The timeline will depend on answers to these questions.

- a. Does Iowa State Code 414.1 preventing cities from controlling short-term rentals also apply to ACLUD?
- b. Does controlling short-term rentals meet the purpose of the ACLUD as defined in Iowa State Code 303.41?
- c. Does National Historic Landmark designation convey any special privilege with regard to controlling short-term rentals?

Action item – Richard will contact the lawyer to determine our ability to enact an ordinance controlling short-term rentals.

3. Discussed the concerns of the community in controlling short-term rentals.

- a. Quality of life for residents
 - i. Too many cars
 - ii. Loud neighbors
 - iii. Destruction of neighborhoods
 - iv. Loss of long-term residents to volunteer
 - v. Market competition reducing the ability of families to purchase a home in Amana Colonies
 - vi. Absentee owners will not care about property
- b. Economy
 - i. Will bring more visitors to stay longer and spend more
 - ii. Increase in the hotel/motel taxes to support ACLUD
 - iii. Maintains the employment in tourist industry
 - iv. Short-term rental owners have an incentive to keep a clean and well ordered historic property

Next meeting February 8, 2023, 6:30 pm, Amana Fellowship Hall