

Affordable Housing Trust 550 Hanover Street, Hanover, MA 02339 Meeting Minutes Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – 6:00 pm

Committee Attendees

Thomas Burke, Chairman Ginny Gilmartin Kevin Dyer

Stephen Carroll Steve Louko Vanessa O'Connor

Other Attendees

Chelsea Stevens, Finance Director

Opening

Chair Thomas Burke opened the meeting at 6:06 pm and made note the meeting was being recorded.

Review of Meeting Minutes

The Trust voted to accept the March 1, 2023 meeting minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Thomas Burke – Yes

Kevin Dyer – Yes Ginny Gilmartin – Yes Steve Louko – Yes Vanessa O'Connor – Yes Stephen Carroll - Abstain

Legion Housing

Trustee Stephen Carroll let the Trust know that there is no update at this time. Mr. Carroll said he has a call with the attorney the following day and hopes to have an engagement letter ready for the next meeting. There is a HUD agreement with the Legion that runs until 2041 which locks in the affordability of the units. The Trust still wants to get a deed restriction, right of first refusal, and a PILOT agreement. Mr. Carroll asked if the Town has other PILOTs. Finance Director Chelsea Stevens said she will ask the Town Assessor and get back to the Trust. Trustee Steve Louko mentioned looking into what benefit there would be to the Town to have a PILOT in place with Legion. The Trust discussed the potential logistics of a PILOT. The Trust requested Assessor Elaine Boidi attend the next meeting to answer their questions.

Program Proposals

Septic Repair Program: Mr. Louko gave an update on the Trust on the Septic Repair Program. Mr. Louko said that there hasn't been any advertisement done yet, but all the documents for the program are up on the website. The Trust discussed advertising on social media and putting a flyer in with the water bills to get the word out about the program.

Emergency Short-Term Rental Assistance Program: Mr. Burke gave the Trust an update on the Emergency Short-Term Rental Assistance Program. Mr. Burke said he spoke with the Food Pantry about advertising the program on their website Affordable Housing Trust Minutes 4/12/23

Approved On 5/10/23

and was scheduled to meet with them soon. Trustee Vanessa O'Connor suggested seeing if the Town has a table at Hanover Day where the program could be advertised. Ms. O'Connor also suggested that the program have some sort of exit survey or check in with each program participant. Trustee Ginny Gilmartin said that Tammy Murray may have what Ms. O'Connor is looking for as she is keeping files on all the applicants.

Other Business

The Trust discussed the possible expansion of existing affordable housing and opportunities for new development. Mr. Carroll drafted a letter to all the large scale affordable housing projects going on in Town to see if they would be willing to explore the feasibility of adding more affordable units to the existing projects.

The Trust also discussed the job posting for the Housing Coordinator. Mr. Burke suggested putting a link under the Affordable Housing Trust webpage. Trustee Ginny Gilmartin also suggested advertising on the CHAPA website.

Next Meetings

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Adjournment

The meeting ended and adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Roll Call Vote: Steve Louko – Yes

Kevin Dyer - Yes Stephen Carroll - Yes Vanessa O'Connor - Yes Ginny Gilmartin - Yes Thomas Burke - Yes