



Affordable Housing Committee

Town of Hinesburg
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Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2016

- Approved 10/05/16 -

Committee Members Present: Rocky Martin, Carl Bohlen, Julie Pierson, Andrea Brainard, George Bedard, and Dale Wernhoff

Also Present: Stewart Pierson

The meeting came to order at approximately 7:05 PM.

Written Materials for Future Community Outreach

Dale put together a tri-fold pamphlet from Andrea's final draft for the committee to review. A few minor revisions were suggested. Dale will incorporate them into the pamphlet. He'll then send it back out for final review, after which we can have it printed and ready for distribution.

Table at Fall Festival

The town will be celebrating the 11th Annual Hinesburg Fall Festival on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 10 AM to 3 PM. We'll have the above mentioned pamphlet available to the public on a display table in the main hall. Julie has volunteered to man the table for a few hours to answer any questions regarding our committee.

Report on Open Meeting Law

Dale provided an update on the latest changes to the Open Meeting Law that affect the HAHC. Dale attended the Open Meeting Training during the Select Board's meeting on Monday, September 5, 2016. The training, which all town committees have to comply with, was provided by the Vermont League of Cities & Towns.

Accessory Apartment Discussion

Rocky is plugging away at an article for the *Hinesburg Record* explaining accessory apartments (accessory dwelling units, or ADU's) which are separate, secondary dwelling units on a single-family property, either detached or within the envelope of the main building.

Review Town Plan Housing Language in Chapter 2

George is going to take over reviewing the town plan language regarding affordable housing in Kathryn Baudreau's absence (see below). There are 11 pages to review along with some charts/graphs.

Emails from Alex & George

The HAHC has been involved with three recent email chains which we would like to explore and discuss at a later meeting. Two are from Alex Weinhagen, the town's Director of Planning and Zoning, and the other was started by committee member George Bedard. Alex's first email is regarding the Building Homes Together initiative. This coalition was formed by the Champlain Housing Trust, the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, and Housing Vermont to promote new housing in the area. Alex's second email relates to a UVM Medical Center community survey which indicates the lack of affordable housing is the number one concern of survey respondents. George's email is about exploring ways to reduce the cost of housing and regulations. Carl is going to review the initiative email and Andrea will do likewise for the survey email. George is going to look into specific ideas for cost reductions.

Possible Guest Speakers

After reviewing the town plan language and emails above, we may see if either Alex or a representative of the initiative would be interested in providing further insight into these topics.

Leads on HAHC Committee Members:

Kathryn Baudreau had been contemplating joining the committee but has decided she won't be able to partake in the committee at this time. The committee would like to thank Kathryn for exploring the idea of joining and hope things will work out in the future to allow her to do so. At this point we are still two members shy of a full nine-member committee. We're going to see if any past members would like to rejoin while pursuing any new leads.

Status of Other Pending Housing Projects/Comments on Hinesburg Center Phase 2

The Hinesburg Center Phase 2 development presentation at the DRB's 5/03/16 meeting has been continued until their 11/01/16 meeting. Alan and Nancy Norris' project on route 116 south of the village will be proceeding in Spring 2017.

Other Items

Committee member Amelia Norris is no longer able to meet on Wednesday evenings. We're going to see if Monday or Tuesday evenings are an acceptable substitute for her. Also, the 2016 Vermont Statewide Housing Conference will be held November 14 and 15, 2016 at the Hilton Hotel in Burlington. Carl will be attending.

Minutes

We reviewed the 8/03/16 minutes. George motioned they be approved and Rocky seconded. They were approved by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.

Next Meeting

October 5th - Topics to be determined

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Wernhoff