

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

## Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2023

ATTENDEES: Steve Irish, Chair; Nancy Chapman; Ms. Curran, Ms. Howie and Ms. Wagner were all present for the meeting.

Additional Attendees: Shari Young, Administrative Assistant

Public Attendees:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Irish moved to accept the agenda, Ms. Wagner seconded the motion; a vote was taken and was unanimously in favor.

### **Meeting Minutes: December 7, 2022 and December 19, 2022**

Ms. Wagner moved to approve the December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes; Ms. Howie seconded the motion; the vote was unanimously in favor.

### **DISCUSSION: Small Repairs Grant Program (SRGP)**

Mr. Irish thanked everyone for their work on the SRGP and discussed several questions that have come in from applicants regarding the letters sent indicating whether or not they have been awarded a grant or not.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Irish to follow up with Attorney Walter Sullivan on status of the 7 New Driftway project/Stockbridge Road property
  - AHT donating the land at Stockbridge Road for construction of a group home as part of the approved project at 7 New Driftway
  - No cost to the AHT for the development of the property
- Funding Sources
  - AHT needs to look for additional funding sources, need funding outside of CPC
- Ms. Curran, also a member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee discussed some of the challenges in town that the group has uncovered after speaking with some Town Departments; there maybe opportunity for the AHT to work with the committee
  - Challenge to hire DPW workers, Police and Fire because of the lack of housing and people don't want to commute to Scituate
    - Ms. Curran suggest the AHT should advocate for public employee housing for the Town
      - Would help attract potential employees
      - No requirement for employees to live in Town
      - Martha's Vineyard is example of how it could work
    - All AHT members were all on board with the idea of working to develop/create housing of this type
    - Need to find a location in town and a partner to help finance and develop
    - Potential to use lot behind the library

- Ms. Curran advised that the Grantham Group that did Lawson Green is looking at the old Gates Middle School to see the feasibility of doing affordable housing
- Ms. Chapman said it should be a goal of the AHT to spend some of the money they have this year
  - Several ideas were discussed along with the idea of Town employee housing
  - Members should be on the look out for opportunity to potentially purchase a home or land which could then be developed for affordable units

AHT discussed what the next steps would be to securing property, etc. to create housing behind the library; need to discuss with Town Administrator and identify property, map out a plan for CPC so money keeps being put aside for the AHT, need to find a partner to develop like the Grantham Group, Scituate Housing Authority wouldn't be a viable partner due to State and Federal regulations and lack of funds. Feasibility study would have to be done. AHT would like to do something for younger people, have focused on Seniors, but would be nice to focus on the younger age spectrum.

Ms. Curran to discuss with Town Administrator idea of property behind the library.

Mr. Irish going to investigate grant applications and deadlines for additional funding sources.

Ms. Chapman going to investigate Martha's Vineyard public housing development.

Ms. Howie going to investigate some information she has from Maine.

Next meeting is February 15, 2023.

Ms. Curran made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Irish seconded the motion; a vote was taken and was unanimously in favor.

Adjourned at 7:11 pm.

*Submitted by: Shari Moak Young*

*Approved: February 15, 2023*