

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2023

ATTENDEES: Steve Irish, Chair; Ruth Wagner; Elizabeth Howie; and James Duff. Ms. Curran was absent.

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. Howie seconded the motion; a vote was taken and was unanimously in favor.

Meeting Minutes: June 2023

Mr. Irish moved to approve the June 2023 the minutes, Ms. Howie seconded the motion; a vote was taken and was unanimously in favor. Ms. Wagner did not vote.

DISCUSSION: Alternative Funding Sources

The AHT discussed that in order to seek alternative funding sources some concrete project needs to be in the works; Scituate is a prosperous and affluent community; many grants and foundations are focusing on helping impoverished and underserved communities.

The AHT would need to partner with another organization if they were to buy land and attempt to build on it. Ms. Curran was going to work on providing a list of available Town land that could possibly be developed. There was discussion about some of the past projects the AHT has been involved with, Lawson Green, Nelson Road, Stockbridge Road. Lawson Green was done in partnership with The Grantham Group, that is currently looking at options for the old Gates School Building.

Mr. Duff indicated he still has some connections with Habitat for Humanity and maybe they could come in to an AHT meeting to discuss options for some kind of partnership. The AHT first needs to find some potential land. There was discussion on the status of land adjacent to the library and some land on/near Driftway/Kent Street (may be Housing Authority property). At some point there had been plans for a small home village, cottages, on the Driftway/Kent St. area, but they were never built.

AHTs preference would be to make the units available just to Scituate residents; it is unknown if a project would be able to give preference to Scituate Residents. Potential to provide a portion of housing for local First Responders, Teachers, Town Employees.

Mr. Duff said if Habitat is brought in they help raise funds and manage the project, units could be sold for around \$200K, but it is the infrastructure that is the hard part. There was discussion about modular homes and kits that could also be options, but AHT still needs the land and likely a partner.

AHT decided they would like to get a list of Town properties and then have Habitat for Humanity come to a meeting in September/October. Mr. Duff will help to coordinate the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

Next meeting is August 16th at 6:30pm.

Ms. Wagner made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Howie seconded the motion; a vote was taken and was unanimously in favor.

Adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by: Shari Moak Young

Approved: October 18, 2023