

Minutes of Housing Commission Meeting
November 9, 2021

Minutes subject to approval by Washington Housing Commission

Call to order 5:30 P.M.

Present: Members: Shane Mongar, Robert Woodruff, Leslie Anderson, Judie Gorra

Also present: Michelle Gorra, Chris Charles, Dan Sherr

The Minutes of the June and October meetings of 2021 were accepted with typo corrections.

Leslie reminded the committee that Lisa Lundberg resigned as chairperson. Nomination for chairperson: Shane Mongar nominated Judie Gorra, who accepted the nomination and was unanimously voted as chair.

Leslie agreed to take minutes of the meeting.

Leslie reminded the committee that the Affordable Housing Plan was adopted by the Board of Selectmen on October 28, 2021. The plan is on the Town website.

Leslie brought up the concern that the Zoning Commission needs to be one of our priorities and that the commission needs to get educated re attached and detached additions to homes. Shane is a zoning commission alternate and will serve as a liaison. Also, everyone needs to be informed about deed restrictions. She also brought up the possibility of having Rescue Fund money used for restorative work on homes.

Leslie agreed to get copy of the budget for the Housing Commission and will send it to members of the commission. Leslie said the Commission had asked for \$25,000 for down payment assistance. Leslie will contact Linda Gomez for the information.

Michelle reminded the commission that The CDBG Grant (Community Development Block Grant) was denied to the town of Washington this year. This program provides annual grants on a formula basis to states, cities, and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent

housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities principally for low and moderate income families.

Dan Sherr offered that it is worth looking at the make up of the zoning commission since the last election.

The Housing Commission agreed that more members are needed and hopefully younger members. Anyone who knows anyone who might be interested should encourage that person to apply by sending a letter of interest and a bio to the Chair of the Housing Commission and to the Board of Selectmen.

The members of the Commission are encouraged to think about the best time for meeting and whether it should continue to be on zoom. The members of the Commission are also encouraged to read the Plan of Conservation and Development. The Housing Plan is for 5 years while the POCD is for 10 but the Planning Commission will be checking in in 5 years.

The next meeting will be December 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judie Gorra