

Minutes of the Washington Housing Commission  
Meeting Via Zoom  
December 14, 2021  
Subject to Commission approval

1. The Meeting was called to order at 5:35.  
Members present were Judie Gorra, Shane Mongar and Robert Woodroofe. The meeting was facilitated by Michelle Gorra and Christopher Charles and Lindsay Larson were also in attendance. Judie announced that Leslie Anderson had resigned from the Commission. Judie gave a plea to find additional members. The Commission is set up to have 5 regular members and 3 alternate members. Judie shared that Janet Hill was considering volunteering and the other members felt that we should encourage her to apply. The Commission has decided that hybrid meetings would be best and that at least one member should be physically present.
2. The Minutes of the Nov.9, 2021 meeting were accepted with the change in the misspelling of Robert (Woody) Woodroofe's name.
3. The Commission voted on and approved the calendar for the 2022 year - the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M. with hybrid meetings.
4. New Business
  - a. The Commission reviewed the Housing Commission Budget and Affordable Housing Funds. Attached are the documents. \$40,000.00 remains in the Housing Assistance Fund (assistance for down payment to be repaid upon sale of the property.) The Commission has a total of \$270,890.39 in equity. A question was raised as to what that money can be spent for. This will be further researched. Currently, the Commission must go to the Board of Selectmen in order to spend anything above \$5,000. It was suggested that at the next meeting the Commission consider requesting that this amount be raised to \$10,000. The budget for the next fiscal year will be considered at the January 11,2022 meeting.
  - b. Michelle gave a report on her attendance at the CCM conference, attending the Zoning and Affordable Housing workshop. She shared that PA 21-29 may be helpful in getting some zoning changes. A copy of the act was sent to the Commission members to go over before the next meeting.
  - c. The Commission discussed the Affordable Housing Plan action items for the Housing Commission. Before the next meeting Judie will meet with Bill Fairbairn of the Housing Trust and will encourage someone from the Trust to attend our meetings. Shane will meet with the new director of the Habitat for Humanity project. The Commission is aware that much of what we have to do is educate the public and encourage the public to donate land or funds to facilitate the goals of the Affordable Housing Plan. Michelle will work on getting more information about the down payment assistance program.
4. Visitors  
Chris Charles presented about the property previously called Pond View Estates. Originally it was sold to a developer who was unable to develop it as planned and sold it to the Town of Washington which made it a conservation area. According to Chris, this might be an ideal site for some cluster housing, also preserving open space. Subsequent to the meeting Chris sent a copy of the site plan to the Commission members to be considered for future discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05. Next Meeting Jan. 11, 2021 - hybrid.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judie Gorra, Chairman Washington Housing Commission