

December 13, 2010

Present: Liddy Adams, Wayne Hileman, Andy O'Hazo, Jean Suddaby, Sue Werkhoven, Ted Bent

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Housing Commission was called to order at 5:05 pm by Chairman Wayne Hileman.

Minutes of November 8, 2010 Regular Meeting

Wayne Hileman moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Sue Werkhoven seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Updates/Communications

A. Meeting Dates for 2011

The Housing Commission meetings will continue to be held at 5 p.m. on the second Monday of the month except for October, which will be held on the first Monday. All the Commissions' meeting dates and times can be found on the Town of Washington's web site.

B. Studio Apartments – ZC Public Hearing

Moving to their regular meeting after a public hearing, the Zoning Commission voted to eliminate the minimum square footage requirements for apartments when older homes are converted.

C. Few Good Acres Initiative

Liddy Adams reported that negotiations are now at an impasse. No further action was taken by the Housing Commission.

Old Business

A. New Residential Zones for Village Centers

This item was tabled until the next meeting.,

New Business

A. Minimum Sizes for Apartments

At the aforementioned meeting the Zoning Commission indicated that they would be amenable to hearing from the Housing Commission regarding the minimum square footage requirements for the various apartment categories. There are currently four types of allowed apartments in the regulations: Accessory Apartments = 400 minimum sq ft; Housing in the Business District = 550 minimum sq ft; Affordable Housing = 550 minimum sq. ft; and Conversion of an Older Home = now no minimum required.

Given that one of the Housing Commission's present focuses is on enhancing the vitality of the village centers, the members felt that the minimum square footage requirements should be dropped for Housing in the Business Districts. Wayne Hileman will draft a letter to the Zoning Commission to indicate the commission's view and ask for deletion of the relevant language from the Zoning Regulations. It was the consensus that this would be consistent with the town plan.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, January 10, 2011, at 5 p.m. in the Land Use Room at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Patte Doran

Secretary

