

July 24, 2006

Present: Don Brigham, Wayne Hileman, Jean Suddaby

Visitors: None

Guests: None

Call to Order: Chairman Wayne Hileman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of June 12, 2006. The June 12 minutes were accepted unanimously.

Date of next scheduled meeting.

Wayne Hileman will be away on the next scheduled meeting date of August 14. The members agreed to meet instead on Monday, August 21.

Communications.

Regarding the Ellsworth Apartments, Wayne Hileman reported that the Washington Congregational Church's members voted to certify as affordable 4 of the 7 units. The necessary paperwork is being worked on.

Wayne also informed the commission members that a local resident is still interested in having his caretaker's cottage deed restricted, thus adding to the town's affordable housing points.

Wayne suggested that the Housing Commission could write a brief overview for the next Washington Times newsletter, explaining the Commission's purpose and duties. Also, a mention of the forthcoming Senior Housing Survey would help people be on the lookout for it.

Housing Fund.

The members discussed a revised draft of a Proposed Ordinance to establish a fund for facilitating the development of affordable housing. Such an ordinance would also allow the Housing Commission to petition the Boards of Selectmen and Finance to use monies under \$5000 for administrative expenses. Anything over \$5000 must go through the Boards of Selectmen and Finance as well as a special or annual town meeting. Jean Suddaby made a motion to forward the draft to the Board of Selectmen. Wayne seconded the motion, which was accepted unanimously.

Depot Study.

Senior housing has been referenced as part of the Depot Study, so it is included in the Housing Commission's analysis of senior citizens' housing needs. Members worked on the wording of the Senior Housing Survey, including definitions for various types of housing, such as congregant living. Chestnut Grove in New Milford was referenced as an example of how a congregant living arrangement can be done on a small, non-intrusive scale. The layout of the survey was scrutinized to try to ensure filling it out would be easy to do. Members again clarified their role as recommenders not implementers of housing projects.

"First Cut" Ordinance (CT PA 06-97).

The members looked over this law and felt more explanation was needed before they commented on it. This topic was tabled until the next meeting.

Executive Session.

Wayne Hileman made a motion to go into executive session to consider a potential municipal property transaction. Jean Suddaby seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Don Brigham moved to come out of executive session. Jean Suddaby seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Adjournment.

Jean Suddaby moved to adjourn and Wayne Hileman seconded the motion, which was carried

unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, August 21, at 5:00 p.m. in the Land Use Room, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Patte Doran