

Affordable Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2008

Present: Jane Dauphinais of SECT Housing Alliance, Ed Haberek, Stonington First Selectman, Tom Hyland, Jim Kelley, Tim Murney, Carol Umphlett, Jason Vincent of Planimetrics.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Jason Vincent reported he has begun to prepare for the public information presentation.

Comments from the town's planning department were reviewed and discussed regarding applying for a technical assistance grant to create Housing Incentive Zones. Bill Haase doesn't feel Stonington has the staff capacity. Ed Haberek said that by the next Affordable Housing Committee meeting the town's resources will be organized. The ultimate objective is to have the Affordable Housing Plan adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Jason asked the committee if it still wanted to consider tax abatements as a strategy.

Ed Haberek started the discussion on the process for how the Affordable Housing Plan is presented to the public starting with an Affordable Housing Committee meeting to finalize plans for the campaign, a press conference, public information hearings, and finally present the plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Haberek mentioned that two other towns have asked him to see the plan. He said Alisa Morrison has been asked by six other towns.

Jason Vincent gave a practice run through of the power point presentation of the Affordable Housing Plan. He began with an introduction about how anecdotal accounts of people who couldn't afford to buy or rent in town led up to the formation of the Affordable Housing Committee in 2006. A few recommendations were made, but overall it was well done. Jane Dauphinais pointed out that the public will want to know "what's next".

The committee agreed to hold a press conference on Friday, June 20 and a public information hearing on Tuesday, June 24. We need to provide decaffeinated coffee and a large assortment of cookies (from BJ's?) The committee will go to the Planning and Zoning Commission in September of 2008 to present the plan for adoption. It was suggested that the power point presentation be put on the town's web site and provide the public with access to printed color copies (25 to 30 copies) of the Affordable Housing Plan as well as printed copies of the power point presentation with about three slides to a page.

Jim Kelley moved that the committee authorize payment of \$1,000 to Planimetrics based on the preview of the power point presentation. Tom Hyland seconded the motion. No discussion. Approval was unanimous. The motion was carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 7 p.m.

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