

Affordable Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2008

Present: Jane Dauphinais of SECT Housing Alliance, Marcella Hyland of LISC, Tom Hyland, Jim Kelley, Alisa Morrison, Tim Murney, Carol Umphlett, Jason Vincent of Planimetrics.

Meeting began at 7 p.m.

Committee reviewed and discussed revisions to the Phase 1 - Inventory and Assessment portion of the draft Affordable Housing plan being developed by Jason Vincent of Planimetrics.

While Jim Kelley said the draft looks fine in general, the committee considered several recommendations for revisions such as:

- Order of list of housing prices;
- Modifying charts to improve clarity;
- Strike a balance between keeping text accessible for the lay reader while maintaining substance (Suggestion: tell them what we are going to say, say it and summarize.);
- Add a glossary with definitions for terms specific to the plan;
- General focus of this phase of the plan should be clear: Are we considering whether a problem exists or considering the nature of the problem?
- Factual information should be included, for example only 4% of Stonington's housing qualifies as affordable;
- Clarify some language regarding CT state statute 8-30g, growth of "older age group", etc;
- Call outs look very good and add to the plan's overall reader friendliness;
- Show more examples (three) of what various income levels can afford for housing;
- Include town employee job descriptions and salaries;
- Specify in glossary definition of Area Median Income that it is "household" income not individual.

Committee discussed content of Stonington Budget Commentary to be submitted by the committee as required by the town to receive town funding. Suggestions were made to rearrange some text for clarity; indicate no changes to budget and state our objective is to complete our plan in 2008.

Jim Kelley will e-mail a glossary used in another state to the committee to begin the process of creating our own.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at 7 p.m.

