



Town of Stonington

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

June 8, 2009
Special Meeting Minutes

Approved
Minutes

Committee members present: Alisa Morrison, Jim Kelley, Tom Hyland. Also in attendance: Jane Dauphinais, Tiffany Emery, First Selectman Ed Haberek, and Carol Umphlett.

Call to order at 7:04pm.

Introductions were exchanged with Tiffany Emery, a housing attorney in Rhode Island, who lives in Pawcatuck and is interested in joining the committee. Upon Ed's arrival, Tiffany was introduced again and he explained to the committee that her appointment is on the agenda for the next Selectmen's meeting after which she can be sworn in as a committee member.

Jim stated that he has been working on getting all meeting minutes in order and up to date and that they, at this point, are. Alisa confirmed that Tim Murney has officially resigned from the committee.

A possible site for an affordable housing project was discussed. Alisa cited property that is being used by the State DOT as a staging area for the Mystic bridge project (until 2011 or 2012, according to Jane). She suggested ways in which this property might be freed up sooner and said she would pursue the issue with DOT. Ed said that he will talk to Bill Haas and ask him to check this out.

Ed discussed a potential new senior housing project that the Elderly Housing Development Corp (EHDOC) out of Florida is interested in building. Ed brought a map to show the group the town property he is proposing for the project site. The project would replicate Stonington Arms, also owned by EHDOC. Discussion ensued. Ed stated that the developer seems committed to moving quickly on this project. Jane suggested doing a friendly 8-30g and used East Lyme as an example. Jim proposed looking for something substantial (concrete actions) for the committee to do - to help get the project moving. Ed said he would keep this in mind and get back to us.

Alisa asked Ed about the non-resident ruling for committee members, (non-residents cannot be members) stating that it is not a commission, but an advisory committee. Ed stated that he spoke to Attorney Londregan and was told by him that all members had to be residents. Alisa said that she could not find anything in the town charter or ordinances that required residency; Ed said that he will provide her with the statute. The group discussed finding new members to join the committee - a town employee and/or teacher were suggested.

Motion to adjourn made by Tom Hyland; meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.