

WAYLAND HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Minutes –November 18, 2013

Submitted by Rachel G. Bratt

Unanimously accepted with 1 abstention

(Marty Nichols, who had not been at the meeting)

Attending: Armine Roat, Rachel Bratt, Pat Harlan, Kathy Boundy, Betty Salzberg. Fred Moser and Mary Antes

Meeting called to order at 7:47

1. Rachel and other members of the committee welcomed Armine as the new member of the committee. Betty noted that Armine is now the Planning Board representative and that Betty is representing the Conservation Commission; Betty is also a member of Conservation. This leaves only one open slot on the WHP, a representative from the School Committee.
2. Kathy moved approval of minutes from meeting on September 9, 2013. Pat seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.
3. Mary noted that Rachel and she would likely be meeting with the Selectmen to try to revive the idea of them appointing a committee to try to develop a Housing Trust proposal. She is waiting to get confirmation from John Senchyshyn, the Interim Town Administrator about whether that will take place on Dec. 2 or Dec. 9. Many again commented that Rachel had sent a letter to BOS more than a year ago requesting that such a committee be set up. She and Rachel will try to find a copy of that letter.
4. Mary also reported that the deed for Habitat has been filed with the state and approved. Trees have been cut and removed and the hope is that the foundation will be completed shortly after Christmas. On Jan. 11 the styrofoam blocks, that had been purchased as a fund-raiser, will be set into the foundation. The lottery for prospective homeowners will take place on Jan. 19; 2 Wayland families will be selected under the local preference rule. In general, Pat stated that she hopes that the WHP will support units suitable for families—units with 3-4 bedrooms, rather 1-2 units. Members of the committee noted that this has always been our position when we have had discussions with developers.
5. Various members, specifically Mary and Armine, offered to make contacts to try to fill the last open slot on the Housing Partnership. Several good suggestions were made: possibilities include a resident at Wayland Commons, a resident of one of the public housing units, particularly one of the scattered site units, or another resident from 89 Oxbow Road.
6. We discussed the special town meeting article concerning the conservation restriction for 22 acres on Lincoln Road. Various members voiced pros and cons of this initiative.

Although not an immediate issue, Kathy raised concern about the cell tower on route 20 and its proximity to the proposed housing development. She feels that it would be inappropriate for a new development to be built close to the tower, due to the law stating that development of a cell tower has to be a specified distance from a housing development. Kathy pointed out that it should work the other way too: development of new housing should be at least that distance away from a cell tower. The point was made that there is likely research on both sides: showing that there is/isn't a potential health risk associated with living close to a cell tower.

7. Mary asked about the status of the Kathryn Barton site and whether the man from Watertown CDC had followed up on making inquiries about the parcel. Rachel said she would contact him. [Note: the person is Steve Laferriere, from Metro West Collaborative Development].
8. Armine moved to adjourn at 9:06; seconded by Mary.

Next meeting: Monday Jan. 13, 7:45 pm