

## WAYLAND HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Minutes – September 29, 2015

Submitted by Rachel G. Bratt

Attending: Mary Antes, Kathy Boundy, Rachel Bratt, Chris Di Bona, Pat Harlan, Marty Nichols, Armine Roat, Betty Salzberg

At 7:52, Rachel called the meeting to order.

Marty moved to approve the minutes; Betty seconded. Approved by all those who had been in attendance at that meeting (all except for DiBona).

Concerning a replacement for Fred Moser, representative from the Clergy Association, Rachel had heard that Rabbi Katy Allen might be interested. Rachel said she would follow-up with the convenor of the Association, Rabbi Sally Finestone. (Rachel subsequently heard that Rabbi Allen had declined. Rachel is continuing to work on this.) Mary indicated that it is OK if this representative does not live in Wayland.

Armine has resigned from the Housing Trust committee. No one has volunteered to replace her. Since Mary is already on the committee, representing the BOS, we will get updates from her.

Mary indicated that the remaining parcels at the Doran Road site have now been transferred to the Recreation Department, since the town's Housing Trust Fund now has \$600,000. Members did not recall that this was the trigger for the transfer and members agreed to do some further checking. [Subsequent investigation showed that this was, indeed, the agreement.] [Units at the Town Center development are continuing to sell. Each sale requires about a \$39K contribution to the Trust Fund. There is also about \$462 in CPC funds earmarked for housing, additional money contributed by Town Center developer, and \$58K from original contribution to the Fund.] The WHA is asking for money from the Trust Fund to cover a portion of the cost of a sprinkler system at Cochituate housing development. CPC had not been receptive to this request; perhaps it will be funded by general funds, not the Trust Fund. Nothing further will happen until spring town meeting.

Once again, the Habitat project is behind schedule. The houses are still not ready for any families. A group of Habitat volunteers traveling in RVs are due in Wayland around Oct. 10.

Three housing working groups: The Visions group, chaired by Katherine Provost has completed a draft report. The major need is for rental housing with at least 2 bedrooms. Sarki's group on zoning still has not yet met. Brian's group on monitoring has met once but Rachel has not heard from him. Mary said that the WHA would be meeting shortly and that perhaps this will be addressed.

Mary suggested that we set a date for a follow-up meeting and that, perhaps, that will spur activity.

Commonwealth Residences is under construction. Betty reports that they have requested an extension from the Conservation Commission.

Rachel reported that she had heard from Fred Moser that it is likely that the Church of the Holy Spirit site will be purchased by a Greek Orthodox Church to be used for religious purposes.

Chris reported on the fact that the River's Edge RFP had been downloaded by some 52 groups, including 29 developers, and that a tour of the site had been held the prior week. The deadline is Dec. 1 for submission of proposals.

Under new business, Armine reported that owners of homes at 89 Oxbow Road are concerned about increases in their property taxes. While Armine indicated that she, personally, can currently afford the increase, she, along with others, are concerned that at some point they may be priced out of their ability to keep their homes. Members were very engaged with this issue and asked Rachel to follow up with the Town Assessor, Ellen Brideau, to see if anything can be done to provide some relief, perhaps similar to the circuit breaker for elderly residents on fixed incomes.

Next meeting: Tuesday November 17, 2015

At 9:03 Chris made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Betty.