

FINAL MINUTES
Affordable Housing Commission –Monthly Meeting
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

Charlestown Town Hall, Annex Conference Room, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown, Rhode Island

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. CALL TO ORDER. Meeting called to order at approx.. 7:05 pm by Chairman Smith.

2. ROLL CALL. Members present: Chairman , Evelyn Smith, Vice Chair, Sean White, Secretary, Sandra Puchalski, & Ernest Morreira .

3. MINUTES. Approval of minutes: November 21, 2013, Regular Meeting. Minutes to include the Communications report and The RI League Affordable Housing Survey. Motion made by Sandra and seconded by Ernest to approve minutes as presented with additions noted. All voted in favor of motion. Motion carried.

4. COMMUNICATIONS. Communications Report. Review and brief discussion of communications and documents received since November 21, 2013 meeting. Subsequent to November meeting , Ernest sent AHC members an email and there were two documents sent out yesterday. One was an email from Tom about 1st meeting of oversight commission and Evelyn reported about verbal conversation with Geoffrey Marchant about their application in the spring. Church Woods has applied under Disaster Relief Fund.

5. STAFF REPORTS on current Affordable Housing issues. No staff reports. Evelyn noted that Tom is at The League of Cities and Towns Banquet this evening.

6. REPORT, TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON. Legislative Oversight Commission, first meeting. Evelyn shared with the Commission the Capital TV Station that will have the proceedings for viewing. You can check their schedule to see the Oversight Commission. The name of the Commission is: Housing Act Implementation & Oversight Commission. Evelyn went over what occurred at the January 8th meeting. Mr. Godfrey gave a History of the Law and overview of the law and where we are going. Kevin Flynn went over the mapping and demographic data. From 2000 to 2012 more people have left the State of Rhode Island. Projection 2040.. 40% of our population will be minorities. The 2025 Land use maps are done. Economic Plan needs to be updated. Water Resource Map is done. New Transportation and Housing Plan needs to be updated and completed. This map will show the Growth Centers. Commission members discussed sending correspondence to commission to obtain copies of materials that were distributed and discussed at the January 8th meeting. Ernest also wanted copy of what the League of Cities and Townes has put forward. Evelyn will draft letter and send off. Evelyn did note that the Road Map RI from Statewide Planning will be mailed to us.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Election of Secretary. Deferred from November. Discussion on position of Secretary. Sandra has been volunteering . Ernest nominated Sandra for recording secretary. Sean seconded. All voted in favor of motion and Sandra accepted.

b) 2014 Meeting Schedule. Planned meetings and absences. Members went over 7PM meeting time and that is fine for 2014. Ernest noted the website shows 6:30 for meetings. Evelyn will look into that. Members agreed to move February 20th meeting to February 27th. Sandra made motion to schedule the February 20th meeting to the following Thursday of February 27th. 2014. Sean seconded. All voted in favor of motion. Motion carried.

c) Legislative Oversight Commission. Discussion of potential measures Commission may undertake in support of Town's position at legislative commission. Commission members discussed inviting members of the Town Council and Planning Commission to our February 27th meeting. Members agreed to go over Goals and needs. We need to see if the needs of Charlestown are similar to statewide report. Where are the cost burdened households in town? Members agreed that we lack the skills required to collect this data. Statewide Planning has this data. We need the census data.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a) Commissioners' Liaison Reports. Progress reports on subcommittee assignments. Ernest said he has meetings scheduled for Feb. 12 & Feb 28th. Evelyn will meet with Senior Citizens in March.

b) Commission Goals: Commission discussed goals for 2014 . Goal to build 1 and 2 bedroom units. Members discussed whether we need to know where people are going to work. RIPTA is not expanding into our area. Lack of transportation. Discussion on urban areas vs our rural setting and different needs. Commission will focus on Road Map and update on our Comprehensive Plan and the process leading up to the completion of the updated Comprehensive Plan in 2016.

c) Affordable H.O.M.E.S. Follow-up: Deferred to the next meeting.

d) Special Projects List/Commission Assignments. No reports.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT. Evelyn and commission members passed along their condolences to Sandra on hearing of her dear mother's passing at Christmastime. Sandra said she went peacefully at home and had a wonderful life. She will be missed.

10. NEXT MEETING. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for February 27th, 2014, at 7:00 p.m..

11. ADJOURNMENT at approx. 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Karasuk Puchalski, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as amended at the February 27, 2014, meeting of the Affordable Housing Commission.