

Town of Sturbridge

Housing Partnership Minutes

June 14, 2018

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TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA
TOWN CLERK

Present: Susan Grandone, Margaret Darling, Edmond Neal, Danielle Larivierre

Others: Leon A. Gaumond Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by L. Gaumond in the absence of a chosen chairman.

L. Gaumond discussed the mission of the Housing Partnership. It is as follows:

a) The Housing Partnership Committee shall study the needs for affordable housing and recommend procedures for the development and implementation of the Town's Affordable Housing policy. The Housing Partnership Committee shall consult with the Town Administrator and existing municipal boards, including the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission and other boards, committees and agencies as the Housing Partnership Committee may determine.

b) The Housing Partnership Committee shall act as the Town's initial contact with developers of proposed affordable residential housing projects which are site-specific and for which the developer has indicated an intention to request an increase in allowed density or other variances in return for said provision of affordable housing. In this context, the Housing Partnership Committee will serve as the preliminary negotiating agency of the Town.

c) The Housing Partnership Committee may also initiate action intended to create and endorse affordable residential housing projects. In this context the Housing Partnership Committee may work to implement a specific project consistent with the Town's housing strategy.

L. Gaumond took nominations for the officer positions for the committee. Motion by S. Grandone for Ed Neal as Chairman, seconded by M. Darling. Under discussion, Mr. Neal stated he would also like to see a Vice Chair, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. All in favor.

Motion by E. Neal for D. Larivierre as Vice Chair, seconded by M. Darling. All in favor.

E. Neal wants to approach the CPC for administrative funding for administrative support for the Housing Partnership. However in the meantime the committee needs a temporary secretary. Motion by E. Neal for S. Grandone as a temporary recording secretary, seconded by M. Darling. All in favor.

L. Gaumond reviewed the material in their agenda packet. There were articles about the committee's creation as well as memos describing the committee. He shared with them a copy of the state laws governing Affordable Housing Trusts. He provided the committee with information about the state's Housing Choice Initiative. He shared information about an affordable unit which was not sold in accordance with the laws. Finally the members of the committee were provided copies of the Guidebook for Local Housing Partnerships and a document describing the CPC and Affordable Housing courtesy of E. Neal.

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E. Neal asked for consideration to serve as the Housing Partnership's liaison on the CPC. Motion by D. Lariviere to designate E. Neal to serve on the CPC, seconded by S. Grandone. All in favor.

The next meeting will be scheduled for July 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The committee would like to invite Jean Bubon to discuss the activities moving forward.

Motion to adjourn by E. Neal, seconded by M. Darling. All in favor at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by L. Gaumont