

Westport Affordable Housing Trust Fund Meeting of Feb. 27, 2019

Present: Chair Liz Collins (LC), Henry Lanier (HL), BettyAnn Mullins (BM), Warren Messier (WM), Ann Boxler (AB); Housing Specialist Leonardi Aray (LA); recording clerk Robert Barboza. Absent: David West, James Sabra.

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 4:05 p.m. with the above members present (AB at 4:10 p.m.) and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. MINUTES: The minutes of the Jan. 23, 2019 meeting were reviewed, with a motion to approve as presented made by HL, seconded by LC, and passed with a 4-0 vote.

2. MEETING SCHEDULE: The upcoming meeting schedule was confirmed with dates of March 27, April 24, and May 22.

3. INVOICES/FINANCIAL REPORT: LA presented a financial report dated Feb. 22, 2019 for the Trust's review. A motion to approve the report as presented was made by BM, seconded by WM, and passed with a 4-0 vote. A motion to approve a voucher dated Feb. 20, 2019 for \$3,270, including invoices from Robert Barboza for \$522.50 and Leonardi Aray Architects for \$2,747.50 was made by WM, seconded by BM, and passed with a 4-0 vote.

4. NOQUOCHOKE VILLAGE UPDATE: LA reported that the Westport Land Conservation Trust does not want to accept the deed for the Quinn parcel, and the Westport Conservation Commission or some other entity is needed to fill that role. The WLCT suggested they may hold the conservation restriction.

LA indicated that The Community Builders, Inc. is still waiting for DEP approval of the public water supply. The Board of Health had rejected TCB's request to truck in potable water as a temporary supply so residents could start moving in; and that April 1 is now the likely occupancy date. The permanent power hook-up by Eversource had taken several months, and was the most significant reason for the delay of the well tests. LA recommended that the Trust vote to transfer control and custody of the land to the Westport Conservation Commission, and let them find a permanent holder of the restriction if they don't want the long-term responsibility. AB made a motion to transfer control and custody of the land to the Westport Conservation Commission, seconded by BM; the motion passed with a 4-0-1 vote, with WM abstaining.

5. HOUSING SPECIALIST REPORT: LA indicated that the marketing for the Housing Opportunity Purchase Program (HOPP) is now underway; a public information session for the program has been scheduled for March 6 at Macomber School; the grant applications are due by April 16, 2019. LA also reported that the 2019 CRE-HAB program is almost ready to launch, with final revisions of new guidelines in the works.

6. CPC AGREEMENT: LA presented the grant agreement signed by the Community Preservation Committee for the Trust's signatures. The agreement had been approved at the last Trust meeting.

7. CHAPTER 61A PARCELS: LA provided information packages on two Chapter 61A parcels on Sodom Road which the owners are seeking to withdraw from the program. Some testing and research would need to be done to see if the lots are suitable for development; he indicated the Trust could use \$300,000 in SEED account or the \$320,000 in unallocated funds to fund the acquisition if needed. BM

made a motion that the Trust ask selectmen not to release the two lots, seconded by WM; the motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

LA provided an information package on the Teixeira parcel, a 43-acre parcel also requested to be withdrawn from the Chapter 61A program. HL made a motion to ask selectmen not to release the parcel, and authorizing LA to investigate the land's development potential, seconded by BM, and passed by unanimous vote, 5-0.

BM departed at 5:05 p.m., and at 5:10 p.m. AB made a motion to adjourn, seconded by HL, and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Approved 4-4-19