

Westport Affordable Housing Trust Fund  
Meeting of Feb. 24, 2016 at Westport Town Hall

Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chair Liz Collins (LC) with the following members present: Warren Messier (WM), Henry Lanier (HL), BettyAnn Mullins (BM), Craig Dutra (CD) and James Sabra (JS). Also present were Housing Specialist Leonardi Aray (LA) and recording clerk Robert Barboza. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Approval of the minutes of the Jan. 27, 2016 were tabled until the next meeting. Motion to table from WM, seconded by HL, and approved unanimously.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:** The next Trust meeting is scheduled for March 23; future meeting dates noted were April 27, May 25, and June 22 at Westport Town Hall. A July 27, 2016 meeting date was added to the schedule.

**INVOICES/VOUCHERS:** A motion to approve an invoice from recording clerk Robert Barboza in the amount of \$687.50 was made by WM, seconded by HL, and approved unanimously. A motion to approve an invoice from Housing Specialist Leonardi Aray in the amount of \$2,922.50 was made by CD, seconded by WM, and approved unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** A financial report presented by LA dated 2/24/16 was reviewed by the Trust.

**NOQUOCHOKE VILLAGE UPDATE:** A report on 12 responses to the plans submitted by The Community Builders Inc. (TCB) to the Planning Board for a special permit application and site plan review approval was presented by LA. Items of discussion by members included septic system plans, Fire Department request for enlarged radius for cul-de-sac, parking area for accessible units, and public comments offered at the Feb. 9 public hearing conducted by the Planning Board. The public hearing has been continued to March 8, 2016 and Trust members were urged to attend. LA also reported that TCB representative has signed the extension of the Purchase & Sale Agreement with the town; and noted the March 11, 2016 deadline for TCB's application to the state for Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

**HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM:** LA reported on his recent conversations with Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) representatives regarding proposed guidelines for a new Housing Rehabilitation Program. The primary addition to the guidelines requested by DHCD would be a 15-year deed restriction insuring homes participating in the program would be added to the town's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). LA noted there are over 1,000 homes in Westport with an assessed value of less than \$250,000 which might be able to participate in the rehabilitation program; the current price for an affordable three bedroom home is \$188,100. There was some discussion of potential marketing strategies which could provide suitable applicants for such rehab grants.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn came at 5:20 p.m. from CD, seconded by JS, and was approved unanimously.