

Westport Affordable Housing Trust Meeting of Jan. 23, 2019

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

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 4:05 p.m. and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

1. Minutes: The minutes of the Dec. 19, 2018 meeting were reviewed, and a motion to approve the minutes as corrected came from JS, and was seconded by HL; the vote was 3-0-1, with HL abstaining.

2. Meeting Schedule: Upcoming meeting dates were noted as being Feb. 27, March 24, April 24.

3. Noquochoke Village Update: LA updated members on the on progress of construction, with electric connection installed and interior work nearly all done; DEP approval of septic system still pending, which is holding up BOH approvals. He expects certificate of occupancy might come toward the end of February.

4. Housing Specialist Report: The Housing Opportunity Purchase Program (HOPP) marketing campaign will begin Feb. 1, with the program offering grants up to \$75,000 for first time home buyers purchasing a 2-3 bedroom home in Westport. LA indicated that new percolation tests on School Street will have to wait until spring.

LA presented revised guidelines for the CRE-HAB program, increasing grant amounts to \$40,000 and raising maximum assessed values to \$275,000. The grants will come with a 10-year affordable housing restriction, and Trust right of first refusal on future sale. The minimal grant amount to be \$15,000. A motion to approve the new guidelines came from HL, were seconded by AB, and passed with a 4-0 vote.

LA presented information on Texeira Chapter 61A land off Sullivan Street, proposed site of a solar energy farm; after some discussion, AB made a motion to vote to not to release the land, seconded by AB, and passed on a 4-0 vote.

5. Financial Report/Invoices: AB made a motion to approve a voucher totaling \$2984.00, dated 1/22/19 containing invoices from clerk Robert Barboza for \$539.00; from Leonardi Aray Architects for \$2,100.00; and from Atty. Kathleen O'Donnell for \$345.00; the second came from HL, and the vote was 4-0.

6. CPC Agreement: LA indicated that the draft agreement with the CPC has been referred to legal counsel for minor revisions. The board authorized the housing specialist to complete negotiations of revisions on the Trust's behalf on a motion by JS, seconded by AB, and approved on a 4-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting came at 5:15 p.m. from JS, and was seconded by AB; the vote was unanimous, 4-0.