

May 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

of the Westport Affordable Housing Trust Fund
Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Liz Collins (LC) with present members: Elaine Ostroff (EO), Craig Dutra (CD), James Sabra (JS); Warren Messier (WM) arrived with meeting in progress (3:50 p.m.). Absent were members Brian Corey Jr. (BC), Warren Messier (WM), Nicholas Christ (NC). Also present were Housing Specialist Leonardi Aray (LA) and recording clerk Robert Barboza. The chair led the room in Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION: General discussion of recruiting candidates for trustee, with the desirability of having an attorney join the trust, and a deadline for applications noted. EO volunteered to contact Attorney Dorothy Tongue to see if there was any interest in volunteering.

MINUTES: The minutes of the 4/22/15 WAHTF meeting were presented; CD motion to accept with amendment: "LC reported the Board of Selectmen's request that each meeting begin with the Pledge of Allegiance..." in second paragraph; EO second, approved unanimously.

MEETING DATES: The next meetings of the WAHTF were scheduled for 3 p.m. on June 24, 2015 and July 22, 2015 at Town Hall.

INVOICES: Invoices submitted, and amended to correct addition in amounts \$131.65 for Housing Specialist invoice, office direct expenses, clerk invoice, \$3,969.42 total, EO motion to approve, CD second, voted unanimously.

HOUSING SPECIALIST REPORT: LA reported plans to attending the second day of the Mass. Housing Partnership Housing Institute annual meeting on June 11. The updated financial report was presented, with focus on tentative FY16 budget; no discussion. LA presented his response to Roger Williams University questionnaire; LC notes that funding for study of potential for development of Housing Authority site looked at by RWU students may be coming from the state. Reed Road house repair budget was presented, with voucher request for repair work deposits totaling \$7,023.60 motion for approval from CD, second by JS, approved unanimously.

LA presented new HOPP maximum sale price guidelines, with two-tier format showing 60 percent and 80 percent of AMI figures. Discussion of the difficulty of finding qualified applicants meeting those guidelines. Motion to submit guidelines to DHCD for approval made by CD, second by JS; the vote was unanimous. LA presented draft of former housing rehab program inventory list, showing original loan amounts; CD asks about receipts of loan repayments, possible re-use for new loans; LA tasked with finding out where repaid loan money is being held, and if it is available for the program to re-lend; LA asked to send rehab participant addresses to JS for research purposes.

Regarding Town Meeting funding and land transfer request, LC reported approval without debate. LA reminded the board of the need to open negotiations with TCB on a PILOT agreement; update of Noquochoke Village general timeline... possible permitting in 2016, opening in 2017. Meeting is adjourned at 4:15 p.m. on CD motion, WM second, vote is unanimous.