Westport Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Minutes of March 5, 2014 meeting at Town Hall

Chair Liz Collins (LC) called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. with present members Warren Messier, Catherine Williams, and Craig Dutra present. Absent: Brian Corey, Elaine Ostroff. Housing Specialist Leonardi Aray and recording clerk Robert Barboza also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:11 a.m. LC called for a motion to enter executive session pursuant to Open Meeting Law executive session provisions #3 and #6. CD motion for #3: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and #6: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body; CW second. Roll call vote: CW aye, CD aye, WM aye, LC aye; vote was unanimous, 4-0.

OPEN SESSION:

Executive Session minutes of Jan. 23, 2014 approved unanimously, with first paragraph amendment/correction: "Vice Chair Elaine Ostroff... delete (Chair) Craig Dutra." Invoices unanimously approved as submitted for Leonardi Aray, \$4007.50 and Dept. of Environmental Protection, \$800; total \$48007.50.

LA reports that the SEED program foundation work is continuing; Roger Williams University Community Partnership program students visited on Feb. 28 for the start of a 10-day duplex model planning project. The student review will focus on how to better handle stormwater and septic limitations of various town-owned sites. The next group review session will be Friday, March 21, and a public presentation is tentatively planned for April 23; the students are visiting the Drift Road sites today (March 5).

LC wanted to discuss the TCB concerns aired at the Feb. 26 informal discussion session. She noted the Dec. 11, 2011 Select Board vote to negotiate with TCB for Noquochoke Village was unanimous, with former selectman Jim Coyne on the board in Mr. Sullivan's place. CD indicated Mr. Sullivan has always been against the project, but LC noted he is on the record as calling it "a great project" early on. CD feels Mr. Sullivan will stay opposed. LA said his impression was that TCB wanted more assurances of community support besides the Board of Selectmen's vote. LC said she is looking for the video footage of the visit to TCB's Chatham housing to show on community cable or public presentation. There was no concensus on whether to raise the topic at upcoming Candidate's Night sessions.

The next meeting time was set for 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, at Town Hall. Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.