

Housing Committee Meeting Minutes
Feb. 22, 2010
Town Hall 019

Present: Carol Scott-Dooling, Bryan Clancy, Margaret Miley, Heidi Doyle, Paul Saulnier, Ellie Gerson, Barbara Gardner

Meeting called to order at 8:00 pm.

Meeting Minutes from 2/1/2010 reviewed. Motion to accept minutes as written from Paul S. Seconded by Bryan C. All were in favor, none opposed, one abstained.

Housing Certification process: Heidi reviewed and presented a draft letter to bring to Selectmen to start certification process. Motion to bring letter to Selectmen and start process received from Heidi D. Seconded by Barbara Gardner. All were in favor, none opposed.

Town-owned Land Parcels: Heidi and Barbara met with Mary Bousquet, Town Treasurer to review foreclosure process and potential town-owned properties. Heidi spent time with Karen Sherman, Town Planner, and Peter Tartikoff, Building Inspector, reviewing feasibility of potential lots. Heidi brought maps of town and group discussed potential sites. Of particular interest were parcels on Woodland St., Central St., and Strawberry Hill. Other parcels seemed to have wetland or conservation issues. Group decided to research how Habitat for Humanity worked in Sudbury.

Andrews Viability: Carol presented research on Veteran's Housing. It appears Section 8 funds would be difficult to obtain for Andrews. Many of her contacts were very interested in pursuing Veteran's housing option in Holliston, and we will keep them in mind for resources. Bryan researched respite center in Hopkinton, the Michael Lesnow Center. They have a substantial wait list for services. Could be a potential use for Andrews. Paul researched private developer interest. He was not able to get access to the building, but 3 developers expressed interest. All thought the building was beautiful, appeared structurally in good condition, and had potential. Two mentioned willingness to pay @ \$100,000 for building.

Andrews discussion: Group discussed key benefits and costs for keeping Andrews. General consensus is that this would be a great use of a town-owned building that is of interest to developers. Group also acknowledged the maintenance and upkeep issues by the town as the title issue prevents further development at this time. Concern noted by neighbors over parking issues and number of units still remains. Concern had been expressed by CPC committee over size of committed funds toward project. Comment from group that there

was only 1 bidder last time, yet 3 developers are now interested in the building if it were private. Question remains is how long the town can afford to maintain the property in this economic climate. Consensus was this should be presented to the Selectmen for them to make the decision.

Committee will meet with Selectmen March 8 for their update. Committee also interested in meeting the Housing Authority and other Housing groups in town, to establish communications and goals. Carol is setting this up with the Housing Authority.

Meeting adjourned at 9: 10 pm.