

## Waterbury Housing Task Force Thursday, October 17th, 2024

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Steele COMMunity Room and via ZOOM

MINUTES:

Attendees: Owen Sette-Ducati, Alyssa Johnson, Skip Flanders, Em Lamson, Eliza Novick-Smith, Chris Balzano, Joe Camaratta

Excused: Kati Gallagher, Maddy Young

Absent: Peter Hack

Called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

**Motion** to approve August meeting minutes. Made by Owen, second by Chris. Motion passes.

**Motion** to approve September 3, special meeting minutes. Made by Owen, second by Chris. Motion passes.

**Motion** to approve October 3, special meeting minutes. Made by Owen, second by Chris. Motion passes.

Select Board Report: Alyssa Johnson

- HTF Chair reported to SB re: Housing Trust Fund recommendations and collected data.
- SB to continue review before determining allocation of funds.
- Discussing community outreach for potential development project behind elementary school.
- Discussed where to house potential 503(c)3 for Trust Fund?
- Renewed shelter proposal from State at Armory.

RW Report: Owen Sette-Ducatti

Planning Commission : Kati Gallagher sent ahead of meeting.

- Working on survey for collecting community input on updated town plan process. Can HTF submit some questions?

Open Public Forum Review/Discussion

- Pleasantly surprised at turnout.
- Lots of good questions that we can hopefully answer with a consultant's help.
- Different experiences of regulation, differing interpretations of regs.
- Help with permitting and navigating regs was a big theme.
- Proposed topics for education series: Questions 1, 2, 5, 6 seem most salient based on community feedback. (see appendix to notes)
  - Mike Bishop and Neil Leitner (Planning and Zoning) (rules and regs)

- Someone from DRB--can't have a formal joint meeting under state regs? Invite a rep to help education. Joe has spoken to David (Chair) about the grant already, interested in helping educate.
- Flood resilience: CrEW? Local builder? Local engineer?
- Someone from DPS-Fire Marshal to talk about fire safety. Possible state water and sewer?
- Can we create deliverables (compliance, financing checklists)?

Programs for HTF Discussion (follow up Select board questions)

- CVRPC: ADU design assistance grant program.
- VHIP: rehab units, or build out new units (cost to get VHIP projects up and running = \$38400 =20% according to their data) Make up after VHIP runs out of money each year.
- Multi-pronged housing strategy needed to address all categories of housing scale projects.
- Woodstock programs: local deeds and lease to locals (created separate non-profit to manage programs)
- Prioritize showing what is possible or getting new units on line? What's the best ROI.
- How can we do more to publicize what we are working on and generate more interest?
  - Invite local professionals (engineers, builders, etc) to education events.
- Consensus that leveraging VHIP program for initial Housing Trust Fund model.

Pancake Breakfast on Friday 11/15 @ St. Leo's 7-9 a.m. for Waterbury employees and volunteers.

MOTION TO Adjourn at 7:40 pm. Made by Chris, second Owen. Passed.