

RIDGEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2021 – 7:00-9:00 PM

Ridgefield Town Hall, 400 Main Street

Lower Level, Small Conference Room

PRESENT: Dave Goldenberg (Chair), Kent Rohrer (Vice Chair), Sheryl Knapp (Secretary), Kevin Brown, Whit Campbell, Sharon Coleman, Debra Franceschini, Lori Mazzola, Krista Willett

GUEST: Elizabeth DiSalvo (P&Z liaison)

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

**1. Current Business:**

- a) **Affordable housing plan and grant:** Review progress toward data collection for 2022 Affordable Housing Plan. Dave read proposed Community Values statement he has been working on with Sharon; the Committee reviewed and made a few minor revisions. Also discussed was obtaining alternative, more current sources of data, since updated American Community Survey data will not be available until the spring or summer. It will be especially important for the plan to account for the impact of the pandemic on Ridgefield's housing values and population. Kent to reach out to Glen and Sean Ghio, the ECDC (Economic & Community Development Commission), and the RPA (Regional Plan Association) to see if data is available; Debra to reach out to Tony Phillips, the town's Director of Social Services. Kevin to help with search for data regarding evictions. Debra and Krista's investigation of housing supply will include available inventory by type, and Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing. The Committee also discussed the challenges associated with reaching a diverse group of employees who do not live in town as interview subjects and survey respondents. Dave and Lori to contact employers to inquire about interviewing employees, and Dave and Sheryl regarding the survey. Debra shared that resident Kirk Carr had reached out to her asking that he be interviewed; Kevin volunteered to interview him. Non-resident employees would get a link to use to complete the survey, but it will be a challenge to access a diverse group of employees. Kevin to look at policy and process barriers to zoning with Elizabeth's assistance. Glenn's assistance will likely be needed to investigate potential sites. He will attend the Committee's next meeting on January 5th.
- b) **Centralized data repository:** the Committee discussed having a repository of data on the town website; Dave to investigate.

2. **Minutes:** Debra moved that the minutes be accepted as written; Lori seconded, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.
3. **Adjourn:** Kent moved to adjourn, Sharon seconded, and the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Next meeting schedule for 1/5.

Prepared by Sheryl Knapp, Secretary