

RIDGEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Meeting minutes 7/8/2020

Ridgefield Town Hall

Members present via Zoom conference call: Dave Goldenberg, Kent Rohrer, Lori Mazzola, Sheryl Knapp.
Guests: Krista Willet, Whit Campbell, Vincent Liscio

Dave called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Minutes of the June meeting were unanimously approved.

Ridgefield Responds: General discussion about the interest of the committee in supporting additional fundraising. Dave agreed to contact both Tony Phillips as Social Services as well as a few local landlords to further assess the need for additional support

Grant application: Dave updated the committee on the recently submitted grant. The application has been accepted and Dave reported that all 66 grants submitted to the state are expected to receive funding. Timing of funds is uncertain.

Patriot Gardens: Dave and Kent met recently with Frank Coyle from the Ridgefield Housing Authority. RHA and RAHC are in agreement that we should work together to move forward with a revised proposal. Frank will set up preliminary meetings with three consultants skilled in these types of initiative. Our short-term goal is to develop a high-level proforma proposal to bring to the BOS to obtain their support to move forward with the concept. RAHC will take the lead of efforts regarding BOS, Community support and P&Z.

Housing Trust Fund: Lori will invite participants from the Fairfield organization to our next meeting so we can better understand their structure and approach.

Housing for adults with disabilities: There is the potential that the South Hall at St Stephen's Church could be made available for conversion to additional housing for adults with disabilities. Dave and Lori met with Susan Consentino to discuss. Susan is a church member and will act as an intermediary with the Church on moving the concept forward. Dave, Lori and Krista will meet again with Susan and Jane Davis.

Branchville TO: Sewer capacity remains a primary issue. Dave will contact Christie Stewart to seek her assistance.

8-30g compliance : Whit will contact Karen Martin and will provide an update at our next meeting.

Habitat building site in Ridgefield. We will request support from Board of Selectmen the next time we meet with them.

New Business: There will be an upcoming workshop on Housing. Dave will share the details with the committee for those wanting to participate.

Dave reports that the Regional Planning Association is moving forward with their work efforts, however much of the information we hope to source from them is not expected to be available until 2021.

With no additional old or new business, the meeting was called to close at 8:50pm. Next meeting 8/5/20 at 7pm. Prepared by Kent Rohrer, Secretary