

Minutes
Ipswich Housing Partnership &
Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board Joint Meeting

Date: July 29th, 2021 1:30 pm Location: Meeting Room A

Attendees: James Warner, Sarah Player, Stacey Pedrick, Michael Jones

Guests: none

Staff: Ethan Parsons, Caja Johnson

Call to Order: Quorum established for the AFTB but not the Partnership. Warner called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Citizen's queries: None

Community Development Plan steering/planning board is seeking more support prior to town meeting. We will wait for Don Greenough to discuss.

98 Central Street

Caja reports there is not a lot of interest. Two people attended the open house. Caja asks for guidance surrounding marketing. Stairs construction has begun. There is a contract with MCO to handle the lottery and marketing but have not heard back with any updates. Last update was there weren't any applications submitted. Caja will look at the contract with MCO and talk with Binni Hackett.

48 Summer Street

Caja asks if the rehab loan documents have been reviewed and if the rehab loan is forgiven if funds come from the trust fund. Jim Warner and Michael Jones state there is no forgiveness. Caja reports Diana Reynold's inquiry surrounding the Town's brochure stating HOME funds are forgiven. Rehab loan clarification provided.

Potential affordable housing opportunities

5 Wildes court. Max 3 housing units, may require lots of money in renovations and demolition, may not be a great town site. RT1 pass Dairy Queen office type 1 floor as a potential site? Ethan suggests the Town creating a formal letter expressing interest in potential sites to send to owner's or developers. Jim says publicity and advertising could be a good idea. Mike Jones supports advertising in the newspaper. Jones brings up the corner of Spring and East streets as a potential two-unit site. Ethan suggest we spread the word about having funds in the trust. Ethan provides updates on 161 Topsfield road. Larry Graham's report states 3-6 bedrooms are possible. Parsons recommends land be used for open space protection and affordable housing. RFP will need to be presented.

Jim and Mike ask for more details surrounding the Action Inc. grant update. Mike suggests inviting Action. Inc. to our next meeting. Caja states she will reach out to them.

Sarah states the select board is creating a task force to begin discussion surrounding the new safety building Select board has requested representation on the task force.

Caja brings up ARP funds that are available to Essex County and Jim asks for the criteria for the funds. Caja states HOME loan commitment must be made by September 30th. Maybe we offer cash incentives

Minutes

Ipswich Housing Partnership &

Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board Joint Meeting

for affordable housing? Caja asks if every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:20am works for people.
Minutes are postponed due to some edits and there not being a Quorum for the Partnership.

New Business - none

Meeting Adjourned – 02:40pm

Adopted: