

Provincetown Community Housing Council

Veterans Memorial Community Center ↻ 2 Mayflower Street

June 9, 2014

1:01 p.m.

Members Present: Ann Maguire, Kristin Hatch, Susan Cook, Rev. Brenda Haywood, and Donna Szeker

Staff: Community Housing Specialist Michelle Jarusiewicz; Acting Town Manager David Gardner

Public Statements: none

DART: The Town Planner requested a letter of support for the 2014 AIA Design & Resiliency Team grant application to examine housing resiliency and economic sustainability and their interconnections.

Kristin Hatch MOVE to provide a letter of support for DART application; Donna Szeker second; approved 5-0.

90 Shank Painter/Province Landing Sound Reports as submitted by Laurie Roles:

Tom Bifani: a resident of Province Landing, distributed letter with questions. He understood that the Housing Specialist had requested a copy of the sound report from John Economos and did not receive a copy of the report. On what date did that happen? What recourse is there? The rent increase request did not share the report or information; Mr. Economos withheld information. He doesn't think that the tenants should have to pay for bad construction.

Elizabeth Williams: lives at Province Landing, Acutech did the study in her home; believes if John Economos released the study and presented it, there would have been more credibility with the Health Department. Believes if everyone knew, they would not have approved the rent increase. Deceitful and wrong. Unfortunate distrust. Better watch out for builders and developers.

Ann Maguire: by law, the CHC does not have the power to do anything

Elizabeth Williams: it was wrong to increase the rent after 14 months; community room is not available for drop-ins; beautiful but not being used enough

Tom Bifani: he shared the reports with the Board of Health and made a public statement last week; they don't want to re-open the issue

HAC [Housing Assistance Corporation] Programs: discussion with Cheryl Kramer, HCEC Manager. HAC has been serving the Cape & Islands for 40 years. The Big picture is to help residents sustain housing. The Education Center is the gateway for many programs. Foreclosures are slowing down but not over. HAC works with families over time. HAC also works with families as potential homeowners to prepare with homebuyer workshops and counseling. Development is a different department. Classes are in Hyannis. They have tried satellite classes but people prefer to come to Hyannis. The CDP also runs some classes. CHAPA has a new program; a pilot program to run on-line classes.

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program [FSS] is unique and connected to HAC's section 8 voucher holders. HAC could possibly do some workshops here with a minimum number of attendees.

Homeless Shelter/NOAH: the overnight facility on the Cape; started to be open 24/7. They are getting a case management component.

Donna Szeker leaves approximately 2:00 pm

The BIG Fix is an opportunity for seniors and disabled to receive assistance with small home maintenance and repairs. HAC will be in Yarmouth on September 13th 9am-1pm. Each house has a team leader; the home is pre-evaluated for the type of work and volunteers, such as raking, gutters, painting, etc.

Banks – approach for assistance –workshops? Downpayment assistance? Sponsors? Grants? TD Bank has the “one” program, the replacement for the soft-second program.

Little Fix: start small, evaluate in advance, always do an energy audit; believe sign-off waivers for volunteers and owners.

Kristin Hatch leaves approximately 2:45 pm

Community Center: discussion with Acting Town Manager David Gardner. CHC has invited HAC and MHP to visit to discuss what type of assistance they can provide.

Minutes:

Susan Cook MOVE to approve the minutes of 5/12/14; Brenda Haywood second; approved 3-0.
Susan Cook MOVE to approve the minutes of 5/19/14; Brenda Haywood second; approved 3-0.

Next Meetings: Monday, June 23 & 30, 2014 at 1:00 pm. Chair Ann Maguire will be away from 6/14 to 6/28/14

Documents:

90 Shank Painter/Province Landing Sound Reports 7 notes as submitted by Laurie Roles 6/2/14
Thomas Bifani letter 6/9/14

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm

Submitted by: Michelle Jarusiewicz, Community Housing Specialist