

**Bedford Housing Partnership
Fair Housing – Affordable Housing
January 10, 2013**

Present: Irma Carter, Jean Hammond, Ellis Kriesberg, Kate Moskos, Jane Puffer, Alice Sun
Christina Wilgren,

Absent: Stephen Boyd, Lisa Mustapich (at Planning Board meeting)

Others present: Assistant Town Manager - Jessica Porter;
Mike Rosenberg: Selectmen Liaison
Carol Amick, Volunteer Coordinating Committee
RHSO Housing consultants: DanGaulin later - Beth Rust

Sun called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.

Minutes of October 6

Kriesberg moved to accept the minutes of December 6 as written.
Moskos seconded. VOTE: 6 in favor. 0 opposed. 2 abstained. Passed

Volunteer Coordinating Committee

Amick quickly reviewed the background of the “committee confusion” and proposed recommending to the Selectmen that the Affordable and Fair Housing committees continue to meet under the umbrella of the Bedford Housing Partnership and that the nine current members continue in place for their appointed terms. There was a brief discussion about whether the membership should be expanded to 11 members. It was noted that this would be a large committee requiring a quorum of 6 members to conduct business and this number might be difficult. As the committee was in agreement with this proposal, it was moved, seconded as presented. VOTE: Unanimous in favor. Amick will present this to the Selectmen.

Accessory Apartments

It was agreed that the BHP would postpone this discussion until Mustapich could be present. In the meantime, Porter will send out the existing bylaws from surrounding towns on Accessory Apartments. BHP members would each review one of the towns (to be assigned) according to a list of criteria (which Porter will also send out).

Updates on Housing Developments

Porter reported that developer, Vince O’Neil would be coming before the BHP with a mixed use proposal for 100 Plank Street – at the Taylor Pond complex. The Hartwell Farms lottery has held and the units filled.

HOME Update

Gaulin reviewed the status of the HOME project on BHA Railroad Avenue house. That project is underway - currently doing the environmental study required for HUD. RHSO will try to get the FY14 money committed to the BHA project -[roof and driveway]

Homelessness

It is also time to update the housing plan. There is a new section on homelessness prevention. We have done homeless projects in the past - e.g. SRO at VA hospital – but we have no designated space that can be used as such for homelessness. Vacancies in housing authority units are rare. Motel in town has a number of families and children now. Local churches and organizations are reaching out. We need to consider some protocol/case management/ services to kids. It was noted that Governor Patrick stated recently that it was his intention to discontinue funding for hotel/motel emergency housing for homeless by 2014.

Next meeting:

February 12 or 13 ? Jessica will poll members.
Porter will poll members.

Recorded by Irma Carter