

Bedford Housing Partnership Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2015 – 7:30pm
2nd floor Conference Room, Town Hall

Members present: Irma Carter, Jean Hammond, Ellis Kriesberg, Kate Moskos, Alice Sun, Kris Washington, Christina Wilgren Lisa Mustapich.

Absent: Jane Puffer

Selectman Liaison: Mark Siegenthaler. **Town Manager:** Rick Reed. **RHSO:** Liz Rust

Guests: Dorothy Bergin for the Bedford Citizen and Attny Brown, representing Page Place Condo Assoc

Moskos called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes of June 25 with minor correction. Passed, unanimous.

Page Place Condominiums

Attorney Pam Brown (representing the Page Place Homeowners Association) previously met informally with the Planning Board. The existing housing consists of 31 units (22 one story apartments and 9 two story town houses. That project was constructed under a town bylaw created specifically for the conversion of school property declared surplus by the town. The 15.4 acre parcel has a conservation restriction. There are also wetlands on the property. The Association wishes to add 15 units – configuration is still under discussion. The association needs to expand its financial/bond base to allow for necessary improvements to the buildings and grounds. e.g. garages, roofs. etc. The association does not feel affordable housing is appropriate on this parcel as it believes the current units are modest in size. Kriesberg asked if the association has considered making a contribution to the Bedford Municipal Housing Trust in lieu of affordable units. Brown also stated that three developers have responded to an RFP which she put out. Committee members asked for an estimate in the number of children which could be expected from the additional units. The Planning Board will have a public hearing on September 30. The association wants to go before the fall Town Meeting to get relief from the zoning. Deadline is October 5.

RHSO/HOME.

Rust is ready to go forward with the rental assistance program – funds will be limited to security deposit - first month rent. Applicant must have a Bedford connection. Apartment has to be located in Bedford. Funds are limited in amount and scope – Wilgren suggested calling it Initial Rental Assistance. Rust will make suggested changes in wording and have materials ready for distribution on Bedford Day.

Update – VA Housing - Bedford Green

Reed reported that the new VA housing is under construction- for older veterans who are in danger of becoming homeless. There will be 72 units which will be counted in the town's inventory – making the town's total now 18.3%. There will be a full time social worker assigned to live on site with the Vets. Veterans' services – medical and counseling will be available. Occupancy expected in April 2016.

Coast Guard/Pine Hill Road

Reed reported that the Town has received a letter from the GSA saying that they will send a letter outlining instructions and the timing. He noted that the plan is still to make for the town to

make the land purchase from the GSA and to then sell the property to the selected developer on the same day. This would result in no net cost to the town.

Other developments

Mustapich stated that the South Road developer will have a public hearing before the Planning Board on September 30. Rust stated Bedford Crossing held the lottery to find an owner for the affordable unit. Winner had Bedford preference.

Small grants

Next round will be October/November. Information is on the town's website.

Life Management Program

Reed has an invoice from Community Teamwork- needs to get more information from BHA.

Bedford Day

The booth coverage schedule was circulated. Mustapich and Sun have equipment ready – will have information on current programs available to distribute.... and candy. Booth is #40.

Next meeting will be October 22 730 PM.

Recorded by Irma Carter and Lisa Mustapich