

**Bedford Housing Partnership Minutes**  
**March 18, 2014**

**Present:** Irma Carter, Ellis Kriesberg, Kate Moskos, Lisa Mustapich, Alice Sun, Christina Wilgren  
**Absent:** Stephen Boyd, Jean Hammond, Jane Puffer,  
**Others present:** Jessica Porter, Assistant Town Manager  
Mike Rosenberg: Selectmen Liaison (after HATS meeting)

Kriesberg called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm

**Minutes: February 19, 2014** were unanimously approved as corrected with 3 abstentions (Note: Of six members in attendance, three were not present 2/19 and so abstained)

**Article 19 –Annual Town Meeting**

Kriesberg noted that Article 19 on the warrant for the upcoming town meeting will earmark \$350,000 of this year's CPC's appropriation of \$2,049,165 to be placed in reserve for affordable housing over and above the minimum appropriation. Discussion followed: Sun was vehemently opposed to spending any more money on affordable housing. Taxes were too high. She felt the money could be better spent elsewhere. The Town had exceeded its 10% goal – having much more than any of the surrounding towns. Wilgren was equally vehement that we should continue to set aside money for affordable housing while CPC funds were available and needed to build up a nest egg for future expenses in the same way that historic preservation did. Accumulated funds were not necessarily for construction but could be used to rehab the remaining Ashby Place units, buying foreclosed units, expiring use at Bedford Village, etc. Sun felt that the Ashby kitchen and baths were old but adequate for present use-most units only had one tenant. The discussion went on for a while. Finally Kriesberg stated they he would be expected to comment on the article and asked for a motion.

Mustapich moved that Kriesberg speak in support of the article. Carter seconded.

VOTE: 5-1 in favor.

Kriesberg will draft a statement for comment and send to members before Monday meeting.

**Coast Guard Housing**

Ported stated that no dates have been set for the BHA presentations. Tentative dates were still April 1 and May 1. She will keep members current.

**VA housing units**

Mustapich stated that Peabody Properties came before the Planning Board with its plan to develop 70 one bedroom apartments – with on site management – for veterans age 55 and over. Hospital services will be available. The units will count toward the Town's goal.

**Small Grant Program**

Porter has reminded applicants of the upcoming deadlines.

**Fair Housing**

No issues.

**Other:**

Regional Housing Services Office will be moving from Sudbury to Concord – Keyes Road.

Habitat store on 129 in Billerica has lots of quality merchandise. Open to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Next meeting April 22, 2014

Recorded by Irma Carter

**Approved May 22, 2014**