

Town of Lenox  
Affordable Housing Trust & Committee  
May 13, 2019

The Affordable Housing & Trust Committees convened at 4:07 PM

**Members Present 4**

Marybeth Mitts ..... MBM  
Charlene Rosen .....CR  
Kate McNulty-Vaughn .....KMV  
Olga Weiss .....OW

**Members Absent 3**

Carol Haythorne, Jackie McNInch, Mindy Morin

**Also in Attendance:** 5 members of the general public, including Fred Keator and residents of Stoneledge Drive

**Annual Appointments**

MBM stated that the following individuals have stated interest in joining the Committees: John Gotterer; Christopher Fenton; and Kevin Mitts. She told them to fill out applications which will come before the Board of Selectman (BOS) in June. She also asked the public attendees if they wanted to serve on the Committees. There was no response. MBM, elected to the BOS in May, 2019 voiced an interest in serving as liaison with the Committees.

**Priorities and Strategies for Achieving Affordable Housing Goals in the next 15-20 years**

Members reviewed the 4 pages of a draft to be contained in the Town’s Master Plan (attached). Page 1 provided the activities and accomplishments following the recommendations of the 1999 plan. Concerning the bump outs on Main Str. added as part of the \$329,000 grant, OW voiced concern about their impact during winter weather. Members also voiced concern about the effect of short term rentals on accessory dwelling units, apartments and single family dwellings. On page 2, CR suggested that in the Owners section an additional line be added showing the difference between what the Lenox population can afford versus the median sales price. A member of the public asked about the source of the statistics. KMV explained that the source was from University of Massachusetts, census data and approximately 5-year rolling average compiled by American Community Survey. One member of the public suggested use of assessor’s data which may show a rise in condominium sales. Another member questioned the location of the Committees minutes and stated he did find any minutes filed after September, 2019. CR stated that she has been taking the minutes but they haven’t been scheduled for approval because of more important matters. There was a discussion about the frequency of Committee meetings and the difference between the Trust and the Affordable Housing Committees. MBM explained that the Committees had been meeting together as indicated by the meeting notice.

MBM stated there is no new information on Sawmill since Gwen Miller is on maternity leave until September. MBM thought that the selected proposal could be good for 180 days. KMV stated that the request for proposals specified 90 days.

**Executive Session**

MBM stated the need to go into executive session so as not to hinder negotiation on the Trust's possible purchase of property. KMV seconded the motion, and all four members approved it at 4:40 PM

**Adjournment**

Members voted to adjourn from Executive Session and to end the meeting at 5:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene Rosen