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Burlington Housing Partnership Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 29, 2022, via Webex

Committee Members Present: Michael Runyan (MR)
Kerry Donahue (KD), Vice-Chair
Eileen Sickler (ES), Secretary
Henry Wu (HW)
Rita Shah (RS)
John Sullivan (JS)
Barbara L'Heureux (BL)

Committee Members Not Present: All present

Other Attendees: Shari Ellis (SE), Liz Bonventre (LB), Jon Sachs (JS)

- MR called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.
- **Citizens Time** – n/a
- **Community Preservation ACT (CPA)** – Jon Sachs and Shari Ellis made a presentation on behalf of the CPA. This is for a warrant article which asks May 2022 Town Meeting to approve the inclusion of this program on the November ballot. See YesCPABurlington.com
- **Housing Needs Assessment Report** – KD and LB will meet with MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) administrative contacts tomorrow, March 30th. KD attended the last of three forums and thought there were valuable comments and diversified participation. KD reminded the committee there is a full committee meeting with MAPC on April 12th at 5 pm and the one town-wide forum on April 27 at 7:30 pm.
- **119 S. Bedford St.** – the town received a certified appraisal from the owners of this property on March 25th which starts the 120-day clock for the town to decide if we retain it in the affordable housing stock. The appraised value is significantly more than the 117 S. Bedford (properties all nearly identical) and could be too expensive as “affordable”. MR is working with Town Administration and Liz Rust, Housing Consultant, to understand the valuation and the merits of buying and reselling the property as an affordable unit. We agreed to meet on April 5th for updates from MR and how we want to proceed.

- **Rogers' Piano site** – the current proposal is for 85 units and the proponent is fast tracking the process to present to May 2022 Town Meeting. BL said the issue is not just about this site but a broader question of zoning. The consensus was that May 2022 presentation was just too soon.
- **Affordable Housing Coordinator** – ES said we have received four resumes and asked for comments and suggestions for the upcoming interviews. LB noticed one of the candidates has experience as a property manager and could be a good fit. ES said the interviews will happen on Thursday, March 31 and invited all to attend.
- **Hybrid Meetings** – ES clarified that hybrid meetings, per state regulations/SB policy, end on July 15,2022 unless the Chair consents to the request and that a quorum can only exist for those physically present. MR asked ES to clarify this with the Town Clerk, Amy Warfield.
- **Minutes** – the minutes for the March 1,2022 meeting were unanimously approved with a motion from KD and a second by RS.
- **Old/New Business** – MR announced that 117 S. Bedford property was legally transferred to the new homeowner who is thrilled with her new home. MR also mentioned the opening on the Housing Authority Board and ideas on possible candidates. ES said the Steve Wasserman is interested in the position and suggested a write in campaign on his behalf on election day.
- **Next Meeting** – April 5th at 5pm
- **Adjourned** – the meeting was adjourned at 6:23
- Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Sickler, Secretary
- Approved: RS made a motion to approve, JS seconded - Unanimously approved April 19, 2022