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Burlington Housing Partnership Committee Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2022, via Webex

Committee Members Present: Kerry Donahue (KD), Chair
Eileen Sickler (ES), Vice-Chair
Henry Wu (HW), Secretary
Michael Runyan (MR)
Rita Shah (RS)

Committee Members Not Present: John Sullivan (JS), Toni Ann Natola (TN)
Other Attendees: Shari Ellis (SE), Drew Merrill (DM)

- KD called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
- **Citizens Time** – n/a
- **Community Preservation Act (CPA) Update** – Shari Ellis, who is with the CPA Committee, provided update on plans for bringing forth the CPA to Town Meeting. She solicited inputs on using “community housing” as part of the CPA messaging. The committee advised that since the term “affordable housing” has been used to date, that it is best to keep the terminology consistent to avoid confusion. SE also solicited the endorsement of the committee for the CPA. A vote for committee endorsement will take place at the next scheduled BHPC meeting.
- **Charter for a HPC Standing Committee** – KD and ES reported that the charter for a BHPC standing committee has been submitted to the General By-Law committee and Town Administration to formalize the BHPC as a standing committee in lieu of an ad-hoc committee.
- **MAPC Update** – KD reported that the MAPC is progressing with the finalizing the video and report on Burlington’s Housing Needs Assessment. MAPC was able to save time with stock video footage of Burlington that was provided by BCAT. MAPC will be convening their final meeting with the Committee tentatively the week of 11 July 2022 in preparation for the delivery of the final report. An oodle meeting schedule request will be sent out to identify the best date and time for the meeting.
- **Grandview** – DM presented his latest draft of the Grandview Commons application. He intends to contact some nearby communities on their senior affordable ownership restrictions. The committee discussed the asset limitation of \$75k in the latest draft. MR pointed out that \$75K

was overly restrictive as it rules out seniors who may be selling their primary residence to downsize. DM did quick research that a person may qualify if assets were no more than \$275K. An unidentified citizen questioned if a person already owned a residence, why should that person qualify for an affordable unit. As discussion revolved around selling of primary residence to downsize residence, the unidentified citizen was satisfied with that point as to why someone should qualify.

- **Old/New Business** – KD provided update on 119 S Bedford. Closing is planned for 30 June. MR discussed hiring of a general contractor to manage any required updates to 119 S Bedford.
- **Minutes** –a motion was made by KD and seconded by HW to approve the minutes for June 7th. The motion was approved unanimously.
- **Next Meeting** – July 19th at 5 pm
- **Adjourned** – the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm
- **Minutes approved** - MR made a motion to approve the minutes for August 16, 2022. ES seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on August 29, 2022.
- Respectfully Submitted,
Henry Wu, Secretary