

**Fair Housing Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2024**



Debby Larkin, Vice Chair - FHC

Members present in person:

Dan Fox, Acting Chair, Debra Larkin, Mimi Hollister, Deacon John Whipple

Members present on Zoom:

Kurt James – Alternate Member

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made to approve the Fair Housing Committee Meeting Minutes for August 13, 2024.

Moved by Ms. Hollister, seconded by Ms. Larkin, on a roll call vote, the Committee voted as follows:

Mr. Whipple, in favor, Ms. Larkin, in favor; Mr. James, in favor, Ms. Hollister, in favor, Mr. Fox, in favor.

This meeting was scheduled to be a joint meeting with the Housing Production Plan Implementation Committee, (HPPIC) however a quorum was not present for that Committee. Therefore, the Fair Housing Committee met, as scheduled.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY COMMUNITY 3A ZONING DISCUSSION:

As previously discussed, since the warrant at Town Meeting MBTA Zoning Proposed Compliance model, Article #36 failed to pass, a special meeting to pass the zoning and meet the deadline of December 31, 2024, for Marblehead to be compliant with the State may take place later in 2024.

A review and discussion took place. Mr. Fox stated that he and Ms. Noonan have contacted the Lieutenant Governor's office to obtain information regarding grants and what could happen if Marblehead is not in compliance. The goal is to determine whether the town would stay in cue and be eligible for those grants, if Marblehead becomes compliant. They are currently awaiting answers.

Alex Eitler, the new Town Planner arrived at the meeting, introduced himself to all and joined the MBTA Zoning discussion. Deacon Whipple suggested having maps of different areas to indicate where affordable housing could take place, where it already exists, etc. Ms. Hollister relayed information from the League of Women Voters. Breaks for the elderly, such as property tax exception and possible referrals, as is done in some other towns, was also reviewed.

Short-term rentals were discussed. Mr. James suggested setting up a meeting with the Planning Board to better understand this. Educating the public was again discussed. Determining the biggest concerns of town residents in order to address and discuss them was mentioned.

Mr. Fox suggested that a review of the Housing Production Plan take place at the next meeting and reiterated combining the Fair Housing Committee (FHC) and the Housing Production Plan Implementation Committee (HPPIC).

NEXT MEETING DATE:

October 8, 2024 - Joint Meeting with The Housing Production Plan Implementation Committee (HPPIC)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 PM. Moved by Deacon Whipple, seconded by Ms. Larkin. On a roll call vote, the Committee voted as follows: Mr. Whipple, in favor, Ms. Larkin, in favor; Ms. Hollister, in favor, Mr. James, in favor, Mr. Fox, in favor.