

Fair Housing Minutes, 1-15-2015
Mimi Gardner, Scribe

Present Alex Finigan, Ann Cohen, Lou Meyi, visitors Andrew Hare, Judy Gates and Don Gardner. The visitors were introduced. Andrew responded to our "Letter to the Editor" in the Reporter. He works for a non-profit agency that serves homeless people in Cambridge, has worked with Paul at the Counseling Center, and is very interested in joining this committee. Judy is a long-time resident, happy to help for now, and is deciding about her future.

The Housing Survey, submitted by Ben Day, was reviewed and gratefully received. We liked the simplicity and clarity and had a variety of suggestions for revisions to wording. This will be re-worked with Ben.

The website work that Alex has been doing on a primer for folks interested in affordable housing in Marblehead was reviewed. There was discussion about how to make the Fair Housing link on the town website more accessible. Alex has received good feedback from Kurt James and Don Davies and will continue to work on the primer. It was suggested that the new Town Administrator, John McGinn be invited to a meeting. He and Judy Gates created the town website some years ago and such an invitation would introduce him to us and perhaps further an update to the website.

Included in the suggestions was adding links to other high-traffic affordable housing website resources.

We reviewed the flier that Jim Vipperman created about the available re-sale at Marblehead Highlands, including notice of an Open House on March 10. Jim also included a list of basic qualifications to be eligible – all very helpful.

It was noted that Swampscott just passed a 40R Zone Overlay for the property at Vinnin Square. So the 3 towns are now on the same page and there is interest by the owner in selling to a developer. Becky Curran Cutting will be notified as Town Planner when the property goes on the market.

As for the final profit accounting at Marblehead Highlands, Becky is working on finding the right state agency that does this accounting.