

Fair Housing Minutes 11/30/2017

Mimi Hollister, Scribe

Present: Debra Larkin, Mark Podgur, Karl Renney, Ann Cohen, Frank Evans, Andrew Hare

Guests: Lou Meyi, Don Gardner

Minutes were approved as read.

Karl Renney was welcomed as an official member. Mimi thanked him for his closing comment to the Selectmen that was quoted in The Reporter article of November 23: "It's a committee that does good work with very little and it's hard to do good work with very little. Hopefully, we can dig deep and see what we can do."

Resident party report from committee – Ann, Frank, and Lou: The requirements of a wheelchair accessible building such as the Old Town House has a custodial fee of around \$200 which the Selectmen declined to pay. Two options: go back to the Selectmen and appeal to the budget that they have for celebrations through the Marblehead Forever Committee. If that doesn't work, the parish house at Old North Church is another option. **The Committee will pursue the former first.** The date for the event is January 25, 2018.

Real Estate Update: Frank and Mimi were both in touch with Andrew DeFranza at Harborlight with no response to let him know that the two multi-unit buildings on Lee St. came back on the market. Frank noted that a procedure needs to be put in place in order to move quickly when such opportunities arise. **Frank and Karl will meet with Kurt James and Andrew DeFranza to discuss this.**

Avi Glazer suffered a flat tire on his way to Marblehead so meeting with him will be postponed to 2018.

Other business: Mimi emailed Joe Whipple to approach the Task Force Against Discrimination for a potential member on FHC. **She will meet with them on December 5th.**

Lou Meyi's letter to Lori Ehrlich was shared and discussed. It includes suggestions that this committee can act on. **Out of this, it was agreed that the next meeting should be a planning session for what we do going forward and that we should make sure Kurt James is present.**

There was further consideration of an intern: Grant writing, including the more time-consuming work of researching granting possibilities; being in touch with other towns and how they do affordable housing – two immediate tasks for an intern, even if we get the MAPC tech support survey grant.

Next meeting: January 18, 2018 7:00 pm Community Center Conference Room