

Fair Housing Committee Minutes

August 29, 2019

Frank Evans, Chair Mimi Hollister, Scribe

Present: Mark Podgur, Katie Farrell, Teri McDonough, Karl Renney, Mimi Hollister, Frank Evans. Guests: Don Gardner, Judy Gates, Ed Nilsson, Bonnie Grenier

Minutes of June meeting were approved.

HPP Public Forum Work: Frank made note of the HPP Public Forum promotional materials for the October 7 meeting at Abbot Library at 7 pm. Our work of the evening was to think about constituent groups we each have contact with and agree to contact them to do a very short pitch at their regular meetings of invitation to the Forum and just a bit of rationale – for example what has caught your own attention in the information gathering summaries and why public input on affordable housing is so important. People took the Forum flier as handouts and have their own copies of the HPP summarized findings to refer to.

With several guests, self-introductions ensued. Ed Nilsson is vice-chair of the Planning Board and has been actively interested in affordable housing since it became an issue in Marblehead in the 1980's. He is interested in looking at zoning to expand what's possible on a big lot and also the land trust idea that has been adopted in some places where the town owns the land and thus can keep modest houses on that land affordable – needs much education and community support.

Judy Gates is interested in making Marblehead a part of the Age-Friendly Town movement .

Bonnie Grenier is a member of the League of Women Voters and just interested in the issue.

Various comments and ideas: Becky Cutting has invited Ted Moore to come to the forum. We will attempt to have more than one article in The Reporter with stories of residents as well as getting the Forum on the 10 Best Things To Do list just before the meeting. Sign-up sheets at our constituent meetings would be helpful to do follow-up reminders for the 7th. The nearer to the Forum date that you can remind people, the better. If your contacts are made in early September, you will definitely to send reminders, so emails are important.

The HPP Committee will meet next on **Sept. 11, 3:30 to 5:00 pm**, at the Mary Allie building in the downstairs meeting room. This is open to the public and will be a planning meeting for the Public Forum in October.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 26, 7 pm, Community Center.