

Fair Housing Committee Minutes, 10-15-2020

Mimi Hollister, Scribe

Present: Katie Farrell, Frank Evans, Chair; Mimi Hollister, Scribe; Debbie Larkin, Joe Whipple

Guests: Judy Gates, Dirk Isbrandtsen

Minutes were approved.

Discussion about having co-chairs. Moved and passed that this is acceptable to the committee. For the near-term, Frank Evans and Debbie Larkin will serve as co-chairs. Frank wishes to be replaced at some point.

Review of the process of a member resigning from and of a new person being appointed to Fair Housing:

Uncertain whether Mark Podgur had submitted his resignation to the Selectmen. Subsequent to that, the vacancy will be posted for the public. Dirk Isbrandtsen will be applying to fill that post when it is appropriate, by writing a letter to the Selectmen indicating his interest and credentials for serving. He is meeting with Jason Silva on Friday morning and will discuss this issue and also the possibility of serving on the Selectmen's HPP (Housing Production Plan) Implementation Committee.

The HPP Implementation Committee formation is in process. We know that Teri McDonough will represent the Housing Authority on it. It will also have a Selectman (possibly Moses Grader), the Town Administrator and Town Planner (Jason and Becky), 2 Fair Housing reps (one being Kurt James), one more rep from Housing Authority Board as well as HA Executive Director; a Planning Board rep and an at large resident member. This is where things will happen and our role will be determined going forward. There was consensus that Dirk's knowledge and experience from being a long-time past Chair of the Fair Housing Committee would make him a valuable representative on the HPP Implementation Committee.

Tasks:

Frank will pursue the possibility of having the next meeting on November 19 be a tutorial with Kurt James and Bethany Blake from Harborlight about the process of creating affordable housing. IF not that date, other times will be explored.

Debbie will craft a letter of gratitude to Mark Podgur for his service to FHC.

Debbie will explore with Kyle Wiley in the Selectmen's office about having a zoom account as part of the town account or whatever is needed to make zooming reliable and easy.

Dirk will email us after his talk with Jason.

