

Fair Housing Committee
Minutes of June 27, 2022 Meeting
Mimi Hollister, Scribe

Present: Debby Larkin and Dirk Isbrandtsen, Co-Chairs; Mimi Hollister; Teri McDonough; Joe Whipple; Bob Neuss; Katie Farrell, Frank Evans
Guests: Bonnie Grenier, Lou Meyi, Don Gardner, Christi Staples on Zoom

Minutes of May 16, 2022 were approved.

No meetings planned for July and August of this Committee unless there is an emergency. After discussion about Mondays or Tuesdays for meetings going forward and also location, the third Monday in September will be our next official meeting at the Community Center.

The Planning Board Public Forum about Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) in Marblehead is on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 and was commended to all of us to attend on Zoom. The link is in the attached report from Becky Cutting about the forum. The input from our May meeting about ADU's will be important in the discussion.

If other events arise this summer, a notice will be emailed to committee members.

Frank Evans reported that the affordable unit that came for sale at Intrepid Circle Condos has been sold to an Afghan Refugee couple. Salem Five is doing the financing with help from First Time Homebuyers Fund. Frank reported that Bucky Grader became very interested in helping to make this happen and Citizens Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) was also a key player, as was the Marblehead Counseling Center. The process is complex and very important for us to know how to line up the details for future reference.. There is a demand in town for first-time home buyer assistance. We rejoiced at this outcome.

No updates from Affordable Housing Trust Board. The information that Christi sent about the newly formed Lynn Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board was noted. Dirk remarked on the much more functional nature of the makeup of their Board. To have all 5 Select Board members on the Board is not at all necessary or practical, for example.

No new developments from the Housing Production Plan Implementation Committee (HPPIC).

Dirk had several suggestions for behind-the-scenes work going forward, including this summer, so that we advance things even if we don't meet.:

1. A get-acquainted meeting needs to be arranged soon, hopefully before July 13, with Thatcher Kezer, the new Town Administrator, to let him get a feel for our work as a committee

and how to best communicate about it with him and the Select Board and the town. Debby and Dirk will take that on and Becky Cutting should be asked to join.

2. Networking with the North Shore YMCA and the Lynch-Van Otterloo YMCA is important. It was suggested that Teri, Kurt and Dirk meet with the Project Manager Vice President of the North Shore YMCA who works with affordable housing issues to educate ourselves and our YMCA on possibilities.

3. We need to determine which member of the Select Board will be our liaison, now that Moses Grader is the Chair, and make sure it is someone actively interested.

4. We need to pursue actively the Coffin School property. A request for interest (RFI) should be raised in the meeting with Mr. Kezer.

Meeting adjourned.