

West Newbury
Affordable Housing Trust Meeting Minutes

Date: August 9, 2023
Time: 6 pm
Location: First Floor Hearing Room, Town Office Building
Members Present: Wendy Reed, Donna Garcia, Karen Holmes, Deb Hamilton, Kevin Bowe
Members Absent: Derek Mitchell, Pamela Shaffer

- A. Follow up on Bread and Roses Housing meeting
 - 1. Pictures from “road trip” to see Bread and Roses AH in Haverhill were shared.
 - a.) Described as being attractive and appropriate for WN AH.
 - 2. Annmary is interested in a house for sale near Mullen property. Deb will pursue action on this.
 - 3. Discussed other ideas and potential plans for Mullen property.
 - 4. Additional contacts and potential partnerships discussed.
 - a. Deb has contact with a person, a realtor in Newburyport, that has conducted acquisitions for Habitat for Humanity and is willing to share knowledge and experience.
 - b. Karen offered information on Housing Support.org, a non profit housing development corporation with the mission of providing housing and related support services to low income, homeless and disabled individuals in Essex County and Rockingham County.
 - c. Wendy has contacted Andover Community Trust.
- B. Small Grant Program
 - 1. Wendy continues to fine-tune the Agreement.
 - 2. Is more than one quote required on the application?
 - 3. Karen has offered to create a resource list derived, in part, from the different boards she is a member of. It will contain organizations that may be able to help people who apply for the small grant program or anyone else who contacts the AHT for certain types of assistance.
- C. Website
 - 1. Kevin has consulted with Rebecca. An agreement has been made to consolidate the current web information to streamline it and make it more user friendly. Deb suggested adding maps and photos. Agendas and minutes will be among the sub sections in addition to education.

D. Review of Select Board Questionnaire

1. Members present answered the questions.

E. Minutes and Financials

1. Accepted with motion from Kevin and seconded by Deb.

F. Assignments for next meeting

1. Donna to look into reverse mortgages and trusts and also to contact realtor for property off of Main Street (foreclosure?)
2. Kevin will continue to work on the AHT website.
3. Wendy to contact Tracey Watson from Newburyport Housing Authority for next meeting.
4. Karen will have additional information on NSRAW.

G. Adjourned 730pm