

Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee Meeting

Tuesday April 27, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Members in Attendance: Mark Hess, Tim Rush, Christine White, Christina Brown, Maria Ventura, Melissa Ventura

Chairman Hess opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Chairman Hess asked for a moment of silence for the Town Moderator, Sean Murphy.

Minutes: Tim Rush moved to approve the April 13, 2021 minutes. Christina Brown seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Old Business:

- Meshacket: Selection Committee, process update: The administrator reviewed that Chairman Hess and Maria Ventura had volunteered to serve on the Meshacket Selection Committee. The Planning Board appointed Lucy Morrison as their representative. Since the last meeting, Melissa Ventura volunteered to serve and the Select Board appointed two at large members for the Committee, Julia Celeste and Nicole Fiedler. The administrator is waiting to hear from the Town Administrator with whom will be their representative.
The Chairman updated the Committee that he had sent an email to Cynthia Wansiewicz but had not heard back from her yet in regards to when the Committee would receive the reviewed version of the RFP. The administrator will be in touch with Ms. Wansiewicz also.
- The Committee reviewed the new Meshacket consultant contract and agreed that the revisions looked reasonable.
- The administrator informed the Committee that CCMVHB were holding two listening sessions on May 3rd and May 5th from 7:00-8:30 PM. All are invited to participate, ask question and raise any concerns. The group will be answering questions and taking down suggestions.
- Christine White asked if there was anyone that had inquired about the open membership. The administrator replied that she had been in touch with a couple of people however, there isn't anyone that has been able to join as of yet.

2. New Business:

- New Projects and goals to prepare for work in the fall: The Chairman spoke on the subject of the employee shortage on island due to Covid and the housing shortage on island. The Chairman discussed what options could be available for that group of people and was there anything that the Committee could do for this group as well as the year-round population. Christine White commented that the business community needs to be involved in housing, like an all island business association to start discussing what they can also do to help. The Chairman commented that he was concerned for small businesses to do something like that, but they should start talking about it. Melissa Vincent suggested small businesses contributing to a mixed use building so that it doesn't go empty in the winter time. Potentially those winter units could be rented in the wintertime also. The Chairman suggested speaking to Christine

Flynn at the MVC at an all island affordable housing meeting about a structured proposal for a large complex for this situation and to solve some of the problems. The Committee discussed this idea. Christina Brown suggested to speaking to Christine Flynn about the town AHC's together with large and small business owners to discuss the problems that the Committee is talking about now. Ms. Brown also would like to know what businesses are currently providing housing and how are they doing it to potentially provide a template for others. Tim Rush commented that the airport was taken off the table because of FHA regulations. Mr. Rush also added that he believes in the Committee's mission statement that the Committee is supposed to work on year-round housing, while he realizes it's a big issue, he would like to clarify this Committee's role in the seasonal housing issue. The Chairman asked for the administrator to find out if the Committee is able to even work on ideas for seasonal workforce housing.

The administrator mentioned to the Committee that they have a couple of lots in their possession that could be used for single family dwellings. The administrator wants to speak to a couple of people such as procurement and MHP for how to best handle working on these lots. The Committee discussed options for these properties and decided the best and most time effective option would be to lottery the property for someone to build on. Christine White made a motion to move on the Chasin lot being put through a lottery and given to the lottery recipient to build on. There were five members in favor and one opposed. The motion passed. The Committee continued to discuss the issue and will research both options.

3. Correspondence - Demo Delays: 21 Turkey Cove Rd Tim Rush made a motion to pass on the property, Melissa Vincent seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Inquiry:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Arielle Faria