

Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee Meeting

Tuesday October 25th, 2022 at 5:00 PM

Members in Attendance: Chairman Mark Hess, Jason Mazar-Kelly, C.J. Moriarty

Others Present: Arielle Faria, Affordable Housing Manager

Chairman Hess opened the meeting at 5:07 PM.

Minutes: Due to a lack of quorum there was no vote taken.

Old Business:

Meshacket Project Update: Ms. Faria informed the Committee that the developers have had a few meetings at the MVC and elsewhere since the Committee's last meeting. Overall everything has gone well, though there were a couple of Commissioners that expressed their concern about retaining trees on the property. Ms. Faria expressed confidence in the development team as it relates to retention of existing vegetation and the like. Ms. Faria explained that the real issue for the team is nitrogen mitigation and the expenses associated with this mitigation are quite costly. Chairman Hess asked when there would be a final hearing and Ms. Faria replied that the LUPC will be sending over their recommendation to the full Commission and they will schedule the final hearings over the next couple of weeks.

Quammox West update: Ms. Faria informed the Committee that there were no new updates at the moment as she had not heard back from the Surveyors after contacting them the previous week. Ms. Faria will update the Committee at the next meeting.

New Business:

CJ Moriarty stated that he attended his first CPC meeting and learned that there were 55 households that receive supplemental rent so that the owners might be more willing to rent out their properties year-round. Mr. Moriarty asked why the Trust hasn't contributed to that fund in order to entice other property owners to do the same. Chairman Hess replied that the Trust is self-funded at the moment and the Committee must be conscious of retaining funds for administrative costs, legal costs and other expenses that may come up over the next 5 plus years. The Chairman also stated that the people that are in the DCRHA rental program are very generous people as they don't make as much money as they would if they rented seasonally and maybe the program should be advertised and promoted more. Ms. Faria added that DCRHA gets fully funded for the rental program and they actively look for landlords that will participate in the program. Chairman Hess stated that he knows that David Vigneault works hard to get landlords to participate but he has never seen any marketing or advertising directed towards potential landlords. Jason Mazar-Kelly commented that is something he has spoken to Mr. Vigneault about in terms of tech clean up and automation work at DCRHA, thinking about how they're promoting the program and if there are more participants there might be more support for extra funding. Mr. Mazar-Kelly commented that he would bring that feedback to the DCRHA board and for the AHC it's just another opportunity to request the funds from the STR tax revenues to support these programs.

Joint Selectboard Meeting overview: Ms. Faria explained that there was a meeting held with the intention that all of the islands Selectboard members and their Town Administrators would participate in a discussion with the Town of Nantucket on pressing topics that are effecting the islands and how the various boards are approaching and addressing these important issues. Ms. Faria went on to say that unfortunately Aquinnah did not have any representation there because of a scheduling error but all of the rest of the Towns had representation. Oak Bluffs and Edgartown had one Selectboard member present each and their Town Administrators. Unfortunately, when asked for comments on the housing bank there was no comment and when the issue of the STR tax revenue Mr. Hagerty commented that there needed to be 5-6 years of collecting the revenues before the funds were allocated to any particular place. Ms Faria also stated that there was a lot of discussion from Nantucket and not as much from the Vineyard on the topics that were to be discussed. Ms. Faria noted that Nantucket has contributed 67 million dollars to affordable housing efforts as well as a yearly contribution of 2 million dollars to their Affordable Housing Trust from STR tax revenues.

Housing to Protect Cape Cod Summit: Ms. Faria requested that she be able to attend the Summit to learn more about what is happening on the Cape and to discuss solutions to the housing crisis on the Cape and the Islands. Chairman Hess made a motion to approve that Ms. Faria can be reimbursed up to \$500 to attend the Housing Summit pending a vote with a quorum present.

Demo Delays: The Committee voted unanimously to pass on 17 Katama Farm, 7 Turkey Lane, 15 Young Street (via an email vote)

The next meeting will be held 11/15/2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Arielle Faria