

Approved as amended

Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes

October 5, 2022

5:00 p.m.

93 Narragansett Ave.

Jamestown RI 02835

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:04pm and the following members were present:

Fred Pease, Joe Cannon, Bob Plain, Lisa Bryer and Quaker Case

Job Toll – arrived at 5:24pm

Not present: Mary Meagher, Town Council Liaison, Mike Liebhauser

Also present: Carrie Kolb

II. Approval of Minutes September 7, 2022 - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A motion to approve the Minutes from September 7, 2022 meeting as written was moved by Pease and seconded by Case. All in favor.

III. Approval of Executive Session Minutes - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A motion to approve the Minutes from Executive Session part of meeting on September 7, 2022 as written was moved by Pease and seconded by Case. All in favor.

IV. Executive Session

1. Town-owned land – Review, discussion and/or action and or vote (10min)

There were no updates on this topic and executive session did not need to be called.

V. Community Land Trust - Update. (10min)

Bob Plain, Christian Belden, Lisa Bryer and Mary Meagher met with Peter Ruggiero to discuss the Community Land Trust (CLT). The Town is waiting until new Town Council is elected.

The good news is that Ruggiero will draft up how it CLT be structured. At the meeting, Plain advocated for AHC to have a presence on the CLT, and Bryer seconded this idea. Cannon asked if CLT will hold regular hearings and meetings that the general public can attend? Bryer stated that the CLT may be a Board/Commission/ Committee, it is not defined yet. Bryer said that the Town Council will be the fiduciary.

The question about what the CLT will do was raised? Discussion ensued and different ideas expressed including potential for development, and creating ground leases like CCHC does.

Plain sent Ruggiero information about other communities that have a Community Land Trust –

Burlington, VT; Jackson Hole, WY; Martha's Vineyard, MA; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Amherst, MA.

VI. Accessory Dwelling Units letter to Planning Commission- review, discussion and/or action and/or vote (10min)

A quick discussion ensued regarding the draft of letter emailed to committee. Consensus was the letter was ready to be submitted to the Planning Commission with a few small edits.

A motion was moved by Case and seconded by Pease to Quaker accept the letter with small amendments. All in favor.

VII. Tools and Techniques for Creating Affordable Housing in Jamestown - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote (5 min)

Commerce RI hired a Housing Czar and he wants to help local communities with receiving federal money. The money can be used for acquisition, and for rentals 80%-100% for moderate income housing. Acquisition money that hasn't been used yet and the ask can be for up to \$1million. An idea is to come up with a shovel ready program.

Cannon discussed the constraints when mortgaging a property. The question was raised if the Town can reduce taxes for a small period for affordable housing purchases? Another idea is if the Town can create rental housing and use the rental funds for affordable housing? Cannon will put together a one-page (or less) for the committee to discuss at the next meeting.

VIII. Member Reports (5 min)

None

IX. Future meetings and agenda items of Affordable Housing Committee

The next meeting will be on November 2 at 9:00am.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 6:03 pm was moved by Case and seconded by Toll. All in favor.

Attest:

Lisa Bryer and Carrie Kolb
Town Planner Planning Assistant