

Approved as written
Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes
January 10, 2023
9:00am
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am and the following members were present: Job Toll, Joe Cannon, Bob Plain, Quaker Case, Lisa Bryer
Not present: Fred Pease, Mary Meagher
Also present: Carrie Kolb

II. Approval of Minutes December 13, 2022 – review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

1. **December 13, 2022 open meeting** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote
A motion to approve the minutes from December 13, 2022 was moved by Case and seconded by Cannon, as amended. All in favor.

2. **December 13, 2022 executive session** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote
A motion to approve the executive session minutes from December 13, 2022 was moved by Cannon and seconded by Case, as amended. All in favor.

III. Executive Session

1. **Town-owned land** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote
A motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:18am was moved by Toll and Cannon. All in favor.

A motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:34am was moved by Toll and seconded by Cannon. All in favor.

A motion to seal the minutes from Executive Session was moved by Case and seconded by Cannon. All in favor.

The Chair reported that no votes were taken during Executive Session.

IV. Rentals & Accessory Dwelling Units - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

South Kingstown offers a tax break for new ADUs and they have seen 7 in 3 years. Plain is wondering if he should talk to Town Council as a citizen, not representing the Affordable Housing Committee to support ADUs. Discussion ensued. The AHC will come up with a policy

on ADUs and then talk to individuals and other committees. The AHC has already written a letter to the Planning Commission in support of ADUs.

V. Tools and Techniques for Creating Affordable Housing in Jamestown - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

Discussion ensued about liaisons to committees. Ann Kuhn and Susan Gorelick, from Conservation Commission, have stated interest in attending future meetings of AHC. The Town Council can appoint liaisons to committees. Members from committees are welcome to attend other committee's meetings under the open meetings law.

VI. Report/White Paper on Affordable Housing in Jamestown - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

The 2022 Integrated Housing Report from Rhode Island Department of Housing submitted in January 2023 was distributed. Plain created a spreadsheet with information from the report and he will work on flushing out more information for the next meeting. The committee can have a more robust conversation on the report in February.

Case asked about getting information to include in the report. Bryer said that she will provide information and RI Housing website has information. She also noted that a list of addresses of affordable housing cannot be published in a report for privacy reasons.

Case asked what classifications are in the charge? Bryer stated that affordable housing in Jamestown includes elderly and special needs.

VII. Member Reports – review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote

Cannon thanked the committee for allowing him to talk at a previous meeting. He asked committee members to re-read the information that he had given out. The committee can use the Comp Plan as a focus. Cannon said that a coalition with the police department, fire department, municipal workers and Affordable Housing Committee could erode some of the “not in my back yard” that affordable housing usually faces.

Discussion ensued on the committee's trajectory. Plain said that the committee is building a foundation for the future. Advocating for housing in Jamestown is a hard job.

VIII. Community Land Trust - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

Bryer gave an update on the Community Land Trust. Meagher has sent information about the Community Land Trust to the Town Solicitor and he has asked a lot of questions. A meeting was held with Bryer, Meagher, Town Solicitor and Christian Belden, Church Community Housing Corporation. All the answers have not been hammered out yet.

Plain said that Meagher is going to make the Land Trust happen in 2023. It will be a win for the community and help to preserve economic diversity in Jamestown.

IX. Future meetings and agenda items of Affordable Housing Committee - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15 at 5:00pm. Future meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 10:26am was moved by Cannon and seconded by Case. All in favor

Attest:

Lisa Bryer
Town Planner and

Carrie Kolb
Planning Assistant