

Approved as amended
Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes
November 2, 2022
9:00 a.m.
93 Narragansett Ave.
Jamestown RI 02835

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Minutes October 5, 2022 – review, discussion and/or action and/or vote
A motion to approved the minutes from October 5, 2022 meeting as amended was moved by Cannon and seconded by Pease. 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 9:04am was moved by Toll and seconded by Case.
All in favor.

IV. Adjournment of Executive Session

A motion to adjourn Executive Session at 9:48am was moved by Pease and seconded by Toll.
All in favor.

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

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

V. Resignation, Appointments, Nomination/election of new Vice Chair - Review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

Michael Liebhauser resigned from the committee on October 19, 2022. Discussion regarding a new Vice Chair ensued. A motion to nominate Quaker Case as Vice Chair was moved by Pease and seconded by Toll. All in favor. Greg DiGasper has withdrawn his application for the committee.

VI. Rentals & Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote Review of Planning Commission discussions, legal opinions, and next steps

Discussion regarding new law of ADUs ensued. The Town's consultant and solicitors have differing opinions on the interpretation of the law. Solicitor Ruggiero feels that the Town has an ADUs ordinance then according to State law, we have to accept ADUs everywhere. If we do not have an ADUs ordinance, we only have to accept ADUs for the categories of: persons over 62, persons who are disabled and other family members.

Discussion of water resource impacts on the Town with increased ADUs ensued. The Town is undergoing a new water system build out analysis to answer the questions: How much water do we have today? How much do we have for tomorrow? What is maximum capacity? Bryer asked if we should hold off on ADUs until we have the information of how many units can we have? Bryer stated that the Town has had a water supply plan since the 70s and the last time it was updated was 2010. Peak demand is July 4th weekend. And it suggests that it is not enough water to build more. Water issues have never kept a house from being built, but the issue of water is brought up when discussing Affordable Housing.

Discussion ensued about next steps regarding ADUs. Should a letter get written to the Town Council and speak at a council meeting? Should letters get written to legislators? Should another letter be written to the Planning Commission? A motion was moved by Plain to write a letter to the Town Council asking the council reach out to our legislators regarding ADUs as year-round housing options and not short-term rentals. Motion did not receive a second.

VII. Tools and Techniques for Creating Affordable Housing in Jamestown - Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote– not discussed at this meeting.

VIII. Member Reports

Cannon – passed out a report that will be discussed at the next meeting. Cannon gave an overview about the Town owning and renting properties that would be managed by the Jamestown Housing Authority.

IX. Future meetings and agenda items of Affordable Housing Committee

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13 at 9:00am.

X. Adjournment

A motion of adjourn at 10:39am was moved by Toll and seconded by Cannon. All in favor.

Attest:

Lisa Bryer and Carrie Kolb
Town Planner Planning Assistant