

Approved as written
Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes
May 17, 2023
5:15pm
Small Conference Room
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm and the following members were present: Job Toll, Joe Cannon, Bob Plain, Wayne Moore, Dave Pritchard, Quaker Case, Fred Pease, Lisa Bryer, and Mary Meagher. Also present: Carrie Kolb

II. Approval of Minutes

1. April 26, 2023 - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A motion to approve the minutes from April 26, 2023 as written was moved by Case and seconded by Moore. All in favor.

III. Community Land Trust/Jamestown Sustainable Resident Program- review, discussion and/or action and/or vote (20 min)

Meagher said the work on the project has gotten a little stalled and Attorney Ruggiero thinks that a deed restriction is the best way to go. Bryer said that Christian Belden with Church Community Housing Corporation, has found that deed restrictions can be lost and that ownership is important. Meagher said the next step is to have another meeting with small group (Meagher, Plain, Bryer and Ruggiero and possibly Belden) to get the project back on track. Moore asked can a note get put in the tax bills about a deed restriction. Plain said that the problem is that the deed restrictions get lost in the title search.

Case asked how much interest there is in the program and Meagher said that they do not know until we roll it out.

Moore raised a concern when Town Council's can change in the future and they may not be willing to fund the program.

Discussion ensued regarding leaving property to heirs once the owner passes away. The heirs can live in the home or sell the property as a low-and-moderate income property. They cannot rent the property.

Plain will try to reach out to different Community Land Trusts around the country to see how they work their programs.

A question to ask the town attorney is: does deed restriction extend to any new dwelling units on the property?

IV. Report/White Paper on Affordable Housing in Jamestown - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote (10 min)

- a. Debrief of presentation to Town Council meeting on May 15, 2023

Plain said that Case did a great job presenting to the Town Council on May 15, 2023 and going before the Town Council is important work. Plain will write a letter to Erik Brine, Town Councilor, asking to work with the newly formed committee on taxes to try to appropriate a portion of the real estate conveyance tax and create something like the 1% tax on short-term rentals that New Shoreham, RI has, to help with funding affordable housing.

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

Topics to keep discussing at future meetings:

Sustainable Resident Program

Real Estate Conveyance Tax to help fund affordable housing

Identify where affordable housing should be developed in Executive Session

VI. Future Meetings and agenda items of Affordable housing Committee - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote (5 min)

The next meeting will be on June 21, 2023 at 5:15pm.

VII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 6:07pm was moved by Pease and seconded by Case. All in favor.