



**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN**  
P.O. Box 377  
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JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND 02835

Planning Office (401) 423-7210

Approved as written

**Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes**

September 18, 2024 at 4:45 pm

Small Conference Room

93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, RI 02835

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. The following members were present: Bob Plain, Wayne Moore, Lisa Bryer, Job Toll, Quaker Case, Dave Pritchard, Mary Meagher, Susan Gorelick, and Fred Pease

Also present: Carrie Kolb, Richard Doyle

**II. Approval of Minutes**

a. August 21, 2024 - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A motion was moved by Pritchard and seconded by Toll to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2024 meeting as written. All in favor.

**III. Public Comment** – Richard Doyle said that the committee has a straightforward plan and he hopes to bring it to a larger city.

**IV. Letter review** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A draft letter was shared with the committee prior to the meeting. The letters intent was to get the Affordable Housing Committee, Town Council, School Committee, Housing Authority and Senior Center together for a Community Charette on Affordable Housing. The question was asked if other groups should be included like Conservation Commission, Shores Association, Fire Department, Chamber of Commerce, etc. The letter will be put on hold right now because there will be a public forum for the Comprehensive Plan. Bryer spoke with the Comprehensive Plan Consultants and told them we needed to have a large public forum meeting, that will probably take place in November. Housing will be discussed as it is one of the elements of the comprehensive plan. Bryer said at a larger meeting where issues and ideas are discussed, we can identify who has an interest in affordable housing. Plain wants to go into the meeting with a development plan. Bryer will send the committee a copy of the housing element from the last comp plan and the committee can review with the lens of “what needs to be changed, what is still relevant and what’s missing”. At the October meeting, the committee will get ready for the public forum.

Discussion of having a charrette among ourselves ensued. Bryer said a charrette has to be very organized. Plain and Gorelick liked the idea of going in with a development plan.

The committee will prepare for comp plan public workshop at the next meeting.

**V. Comprehensive Plan** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

The Comprehensive Plan has 7 elements, which guides development for 10 years and plans for next 20 years. Goals, policy and action items are within each element. The re-write and update is a year-long process. The Planning Commission has a kick-off meeting with the Planning Commission later tonight.

**VI. FY 2026 funding** - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

Discussion on bonds, allocation of real estate transfer tax, CDBG funding ensued. The question was raised should this committee ask local candidates about affordable housing? A more pointed question should be asked, for example “Would you pledge to support a bond for affordable housing?”

Meet the candidate events:

October 9<sup>th</sup> at Narragansett Café from 5:30-7:30 pm

October 15<sup>th</sup> at Jamestown Library sponsored by Shore’s Association from 6:30-7:45 pm.

**VII. Member Reports (5 min)** - review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote

Bryer was approached by a resident. They had calculated how many vacant houses were in Jamestown and wanted to come up with a strategy on how to reach out to the owners to make them available for rentals.

Bryer said the CDBG applications are moving along for submission.

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

Next meeting will be on October 16, 2024 at 4:45pm

**IX. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 5:45pm was moved by Toll and seconded by Pease. All in favor.