



TOWN OF JAMESTOWN

P.O. Box 377
93 Narragansett Ave.
JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND 02835

Planning Office (401) 423-7210

Approved as written

Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee Minutes

April 16, 2025 at 5:00pm

Small Conference Room

93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, RI 02835

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm and the following members were present: Bob Plain, Job Toll, Lisa Bryer, Dave Pritchard, Wayne Moore, Quaker Case, Susan Gorelick

Also present: Carrie Kolb

Not present: Mary Meagher and Fred Pease

II. Approval of Minutes

- a. March 19, 2025 - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

A motion was moved by Moore and seconded by Case to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2025 meeting as written. All in favor.

III. Public Comment - none

IV. Town Bond for Affordable Housing, Financial Town Meeting June 2, 2025 – Public Education - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

Discussion ensued regarding the Financial Town Meeting that will be held on June 2, 2025. Plain would like to write a letter to the editor for Jamestown Press. Bryer said, she believes the committee can educate the public but cannot say “vote yes”. Plain said that the bond has the potential to be a revenue for the town because all sorts of people finance development and we will make money back from rentals and sales of homes.

Discussion about public education ensued. When and how should the education occur? The public needs to know what the bond is and why it is needed.

Ways to educate the public:

- 1) Write a letter to the editor for Jamestown Press to educate why bond is needed. Send a letter each week for 5 weeks.
- 2) Create a podcast with Susan Gorelick’s Climate Café
- 3) Affordable Housing Bond will the topic of the May Meeting for Climate Café
- 4) Create an insert for the Jamestown Press
- 5) Get an article in the Jamestown Press
- 6) Have a supporter of Affordable Housing tell their story
- 7) Educate/speak at Financial Town Meeting

Discussion between affordable housing and workforce housing ensued. Bryer said that affordable housing is eligible for CDBG funding. Workforce housing could include and not include eligibility for federal funding. For rentals, the applicants would need to qualify every

year. Homeownership is different and they are not penalized if they make more money once they own the home.

V. Letter to Town Council - review, discussion and/or action and/or vote

1. Request to utilize Affordable Housing Trust Funds – Approved 4-7-25 Town Council Meeting

A copy of the letter was distributed to committee members.

VI. PY 23-24 CDBG Competitive Grant Application - (5 min) - review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote

Plain recused himself from this discussion.

Bryer explained that the Town has applied for 2 projects in the 23/24 competitive grant round.

The 2 projects are \$500,000 for the Senior Center and \$500,000 for the Housing Authority, Senior Housing on Pemberton for completion of the bathrooms.

The first public hearing is on Wednesday, April 23 at 4:00pm in Council Chambers. The second public hearing is on May 5 at 6:30pm at Town Council meeting. The grant is due May 23.

VII. 2025 Jamestown Comprehensive Plan – Housing (5 min) - review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote

1. Transmittal of Goals, Policies and Actions

The Housing spreadsheet will be reviewed/discussed at the May 21, 2025 meeting. The draft Housing Section for the Comp Plan has been reviewed by the committee already. Please review the goals, policies and actions to see if anything missing or needs correcting?

VIII. Member Reports (5 min) - review, discussion, and/or action and/or vote - none

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

Next meeting May 21, 2025 at 5:00pm

X. Adjournment

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

Attest:

Carrie Kolb