

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

* MINUTES *

August 7, 2018

6:30 p.m. A meeting of the Needham Affordable Housing Trust was convened by Board of Selectmen Chair Daniel Matthews at the Needham Town Hall. Present were Mr. John Bulian, Mr. Moe Handel, Mr. Matthew Borrelli, Ms. Marianne Cooley, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, Director of Planning & Community Development Lee Newman, and Community Housing Coordinator Karen Sunnarborg.

Trust Fund Rules & Responsibilities – The Trustees reviewed the Declaration of Trust approved by the Board of Selectmen in September, 2017.

Designation of Officers

Motion: Mr. Borrelli moved that the Housing Trust designate the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen to serve as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Needham Affordable Housing Trust. The motion was seconded by Mr. Handel. Unanimous: 6-0.

Discussion of At-Large Appointee – The Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen will arrange for the position to be advertised and will make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for appointment prior to the next meeting.

Establish Meeting Schedule – The Trustees agreed to meet bi-annually in the summer and winter.

Status of Fund – Ms. Sunnarborg reported that there is \$8,717.58 in the fund, resulting from monitoring fees from Wingate, Needham Place, Webster Green, and resale of a unit on Yurick Road.

Funding Constraints – Ms. Sunnarborg noted that the available funding is not sufficient for large projects, but may be allocated to miscellaneous housing-related expenses such as inspection fees for the annual monitoring of the CPA and HOME Program funded South Street group home, project monitoring (inspections for resale units, unit advertising, etc.), community outreach and education related to local, regional, and state housing programs and services such as brochures and other informational materials, and advocacy for affordable or fair housing initiatives, as determined by the Needham Affordable Housing Trustees.

Funding Opportunities – Ms. Sunnarborg suggested that the Trustees may want to consider seeking funding for a small grant

program to allow qualified residents to make modest repairs and alterations to their homes for health and safety reasons. Such a program is not eligible for CPA funding because assistance would be directed to existing units instead of those that were acquired and created through CPA funding. The program could have established age and income limits, as determined by the Trustees. Ms. Fitzpatrick agreed to include a proposal for such a program in the FY2020 budget.

Housing Update – The Trustees discussed the projects that have been proposed for the Daystar building, the status of the new affordable unit at Webster Green, the Housing Authority’s development plans, and proposals being developed by the Planning Board for zoning of Accessory Dwelling Units.

6:55 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Bulian moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Handel seconded the motion. Unanimous: 6-0.