

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday August 14, 2023 Minutes

Meeting began at 6:30

Members present: Jeff Goodrich, Gordon Green, Brian Loeb, Jeff Lubell, Paul Manganiello

Public attendee: Marsha Price

- 1. Approve Agenda:** Moved by Brian L., seconded by Paul M.; passed unanimously.
- 2. Comments from the Public:** Marsha related that she was interested in affordable housing and wanted to learn more about what the plans and current proposals are to address the problem.
- 3. Approve June 19, 2023 AHSC Meeting Minutes:** Moved by Paul M., seconded by Brian L. Passed 3-0 with 2 abstentions. (Note: There was no meeting in July due to lack of a quorum.)
- 4. Proposed Vermont Community Development Program (VCD) grant application, New Boston Road parcel:**

Jeff L. met with the Acting Town Manager, Brennan Duffy, who asked Jeff to delay the submission until the next round, which is due in February. Jeff L. recommended we delay the application until that time as this will give us more time to work through all the different layers of review. The plan is to draft the proposal in September; work with the Planning Committee in October; update the Selectboard in November; hold a public meeting in December; and return to the Selectboard in January for final approval before submission by the end of January.

Other issues:

1. Jeff L. proposed to work with the various Norwich Faith-based communities to develop an outreach event on affordable housing for October or November. Representatives will be invited to join the AHSC meeting in September to plan the event. The event should be broadly advertised and probably “hybrid”.
2. The subcommittee and Marsha discussed ways to encourage Accessory Dwelling Units); difficulty getting accurate data on the number of Norwich ADUs and how many are “really” affordable; Hanover’s recently passed bill which requires owners of rental options to register rentals; and the question of how landowners learn about septic requirements.

3. The subcommittee discussed the Planning Commission's new subcommittees, including one on land use, and how to interact with them. Paul M., requested a regular update on the subcommittee's monthly agenda for updates on Planning Commission activities.
4. Agenda for Sept. 18 at 6:30 meeting:
 - a. Review draft VCDP Planning Grant application
 - b. Review fact sheets on different AHSC initiatives
 - c. Plan outreach event

Adjourn: unanimously passed

Submitted by Paul Manganiello