



Lexington Housing Partnership

Meeting minutes for October 24, 2013

Attendees: Bob Pressman, Wendy Manz, Melinda Walker, Betsey Weiss, Harriet Cohen, Jeri Foutter, Carole Marine, Joe Pato, Tom Harden, Michelle Ciccolo

Guests: Bob Bicknell, Chris Kluchman, Florence Baturin

The meeting was chaired by Betsey Weiss and the minutes were taken by Harriet Cohen. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

1. Appreciation for Chris Kluchman and Florence Baturin

The LHP expressed its appreciation for the work of Chris Kluchman and Florence Baturin, who have both been pivotal in the promotion of affordable housing. Their diligence, sense of humor, and informed advocacy has advanced the cause of affordable housing in Lexington. Both Ms. Kluchman and Ms. Baturin will be missed greatly by the LHP. We wish them the very best.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Joe Pato presented certificates of appreciation to Ms. Kluchman and Ms. Baturin.

2. Request reappointments for Harriet Cohen, Mary Haskell, and Carole Marine

Michelle Ciccolo moved a motion to request reappointment for Harriet Cohen, Mary Haskell and Carole Marine to the Lexington Housing Partnership. Bob Pressman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes were discussed. Ms. Weiss added Ms. Manz's name to the minutes. There were no other corrections or comments. Ms. Cohen moved approval of the minutes and Ms. Walker seconded. There were 9 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

4. Parcel Subcommittee update – Betsey and Melinda

The Parcel Subcommittee received word that the Sellars property at 430 Concord Ave has been put under agreement (we think). Steve Laferriere of Metro West Collaborative Development will call to determine the status of the property, and, if it is still available, inquire as to whether the owner would be willing to consider a sale for affordable housing. There is a potential of 70 units on the lot. Mr. Laferriere will also check as to whether the owner of 171 Woburn St would consider a sale for affordable housing. The owner is considering selling the property and it would accommodate between 9 and 12 units. If either or both owners would consider such a sale, MWCD would spearhead the development of mixed use housing (affordable and market rate). Ms. Walker will inquire with Mr. Sweeney as to whether he would consider such development on his property on Lincoln Street. Several other properties were discussed as alternatives to pursue at a later time.

5. LexHAB – Busa Farm Update – Bob Pressman

LexHAB sponsored a meeting with the abutters of Busa Farm to show them a drawing of the planned housing for the Busa Farm land. Some local residents wrote to the Board of Selectmen to say that the current process is insufficiently comprehensive for dealing with issues related to the housing development at Busa Farm. As a result, LexHAB will schedule additional meetings with the abutters and will modify some of their plans to reflect comments they have received.



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If, when the Busa Farm plan is presented to them, the Board of Selectmen approve the LexHAB plans, LexHAB will request funding from the CPC.

Ms. Weiss will send the LHP letter of support for Busa Farm housing to Lynn Pease, asking her to hold it until the LexHAB proposal is presented to the Board of Selectmen, and to provide it to the Board of Selectmen at that time.

6. Discussion of the New Housing Production Plan Draft

The LHP discussed the recent Housing Production Plan draft and provided comments aimed at making the document more persuasive and concrete regarding affordable housing.

Please provide comments to Michelle and to Aaron Henry within the next two weeks, by November 8.

7. New Member Suggestions

The LHP has three vacancies that need to be filled.

8. Backup Secretary

Ms. Marine will provide backup for Ms. Cohen if Ms. Cohen is not available.

9. Next Meeting

The LHP will meet on either Dec. 9 or Dec. 12.

10. New Business – Ms. Foutter

A representative of the Douglas Home (at 9 Oakland Street) approached Ms. Foutter about renovating the property and turning it into an affordable 1-floor, 1-bedroom unit. Ideally, it would be used for someone with a brain injury who is able to leave the Douglas Home and live in a more independent living. The LHP suggested that Douglas Home apply to the CPC for funds for the property renovation.

11. Adjournment

Ms. Michelle moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Marine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.