



Lexington Housing Partnership

Lexington Housing Partnership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Ellen Stone Room, Cary Hall

1605 Massachusetts Avenue

Lexington, Massachusetts

ATTENDEES

Jeri Foutter, Tom Harden, Mary Haskell, Wendy Manz, Joe Pato, Bob Pressman, Melinda Walker & Betsey Weiss. Betsey Weiss chaired the meeting and Melinda Walker took notes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Changes in Partnership Composition

Betsey announced that Carole Marine has resigned from the partnership. She asked whether there was any interest in moving the regular meeting night to Tuesday. There was no interest in doing so. There was a brief discussion about keeping Pat Linton (webmaster) as a non-voting member; the consensus was 'yes.' Betsey reported she has asked Saatvik Ahluwalia several times to join the partnership. Although there was a discussion about revising the required number of committee members, no decision was made to request a change by the BoS.

2. Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2014 Meeting

Bob Pressman moved to approve minutes as corrected. Mary Haskell seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. LexHAB CPC Request

There was no 'new' information about the CPC's unanimous support of the LexHAB request for funds for the six units of housing on the BUSA property.

4. LHA CPC Request

Melinda Walker reported she expects the LHA request will be approved by town meeting.

5. Dodson Parcel Update

Steve Laferriere (Metrowest) was not present.



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6. HHP update

Joe Pato reported on the status of the cover letter (from the BoS) that will be inserted at the beginning of the housing production plan. In a meeting with Aaron Henry, the town manager explained why he felt the cover letter should state that the Selectman accept the HHP as a report and endorse continued study on housing policy as 'informed by the report.' Partnership members expressed some disappointment in the tone of this suggestion. There was a suggestion that LHA should continue to suggest that the introduction of the HPP include a reference to the comprehensive plan. In response to the expressed collective frustration of the partnership, Bob Pressman suggested the partnership should encourage the BoS to start the 'RFP' process for the LexHAB proposal on the Leary property. He then asked if the Lexington Housing Authority would be interested in developing other parcels in Lexington and Melinda Walker (LHA) said there was no state or federal funding available. Wendy Manz then mentioned a couple of properties (Marrett Road, Lincoln Street) that might be suitable to add to the Dodson Parcel list. It was suggested the specific addresses could be sent to Steve Laferriere (Metrowest) for review. Betsey Weiss each partnership member could pick three (3) parcels or opportunities to research.

7. BoS vote on LexHAB Development on BUSA property

Betsey reviewed the outcome of the vote at the Selectman's meeting. Bob Pressman mentioned he had spoken with Deb Mauger about the letter submitted by the LHP. There was a discussion about the strategy for advocacy at town meeting on April 7. Members agreed to speak at the "Yes" microphone. Points of emphasis will include number of teardowns, waiting lists at LHA and LexHAB, 'green' construction proposal by Carter Scott, and the need to add to the SHI in order to assure future compliance with 40B statute.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 1, 2014 @ 7:30 pm, Ellen Stone Room, Cary Hall, Lexington.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,