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# ***Lexington Housing Partnership***

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## **Meeting Minutes for May 1, 2014**

**Attendees:** Melinda Walker, Joe Pato, Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti, Jeri Foutter, Harriet Cohen, Wendy Manz, Mary Haskell, Betsey Weiss

The meeting was chaired by Betsey Weiss and the minutes were taken by Harriet Cohen. The meeting was called to order at 7:39 pm.

### **1. Busa- LexHAB's 6 units passed TM on April 7, 2014**

The LHP noted the passage of the 6 LexHab affordable housing units on the Busa property at Town Meeting. The Partnership was gratified by the number of speakers who voiced support for the housing.

### **2. Discuss/find three recommendations from the HPP to send to the BOS for 6/19 BoS Goal Setting Meeting**

At the LHP meeting on Thursday evening, the attendees agreed that we would provide a set of 3 to 5 recommendations to the Board of Selectmen in conjunction with the Housing Production Plan. The LHP proposed four recommendations for consideration. They can be summarized as follows:

- Implement plans as previously submitted for Leary (and include URL)
- Lexington has not identified opportunities for Town-created affordable housing beyond the development of the Leary property. This means that affordable housing growth will not keep up with the growth in market-rate houses, and will fall below the 10% threshold specified in Chapter 40B. Hence, our recommendation is:
  - Assess the feasibility of buying a house with a large lot, spending in the range of \$500-\$750K and putting a small cluster of affordable housing units on the lot. This would be a multi-year development effort.
- Explore options for denser housing development, for example, for senior housing.

The plan is that the LHP will to agree on a set of recommendations at the next meeting on May 22, and then take a vote on them to formally propose them to the BoS.

### **3. Discuss points for a fall Op-Ed on why we need affordable housing if we are at 10%**

The committee discussed the aspects of affordable housing that would make a case for implementing additional affordable housing in Lexington, even though the Town is beyond the Chapter 40B requirement of 10%. The goal is to create an op-ed for the *Lexington Minuteman* that makes this case.

### **4. New Business**

- Ms. Walker will be showing Steve Laferriere of Metro West Collaborative Development some of the properties on the list of larger town properties (the "Dodson list"). These are privately owned properties that would be appropriate for the development of affordable housing.
- Ms. Foutter suggested that we add an agenda item to the next meeting to discuss how we might perform the outreach and public advocacy portion of the LHP charge.

### **5. Next Meeting**

The LHP will meet on May 22 at 7:30 pm.



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## *Lexington Housing Partnership*

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### **6. Adjournment**

Ms. Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.