



**Town of North Stonington
North Stonington Affordable Housing Committee
Special Meeting
Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 5:30 pm
Education Center Media Center
298 Norwich Westerly Rd.**

MINUTES

Chairman Will Mason called the Special Meeting of the NSAHC to order at 5:35 pm.

Members present: Will Mason, Denise Hawk, Brian Rathbun, Cheryl Haase, and Patrick Colgan (with Steve Colgan).

Members absent: Margaret Leonard

Guests:

Staff Present: Bob Carlson, First Selectman

Public Present: Mary Ann Ricker

Public Comments: S. Colgan brought up P&Z decision to recommend not to sell property on Wrights Road. B. Carlson gave some background information on that decision.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of September 26, 2022 Regular Meeting and October 24, 2022 Regular Meeting were accepted as written.

New Business

- a. Approval of 2023 meeting dates: The new dates for 2023 are January 23, February 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 31, August 28, September 25, October 23, November 20, January 29, 2024. There will be no meeting in December.
- b. Budget request for 2023: Motion was made and seconded (C. Haase/D. Hawk) to submit a budget request of \$1,000 for the NSAHC 2023 budget. Motion Passed (4:0) B. Rathbun abstained. W. Mason will submit a request for a \$1,000 2023 budget for the NSAHC.

Old Business

- a. The event on January 30 will be held at the library from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Committee members will arrive at 5:30 pm to set-up and stay until 8:00 p.m. to clean-up. The committee discussed the goal of this event and the focus of the committee for 2023. A number of members suggested building units and C. Haase mentioned the need for apartments. During this discussion, B. Rathbun recommended that the town be surveyed regarding their position on building affordable housing in North Stonington. B. Carlson and C. Haase discussed the difference between being required to do this by the state and wanting to do it because it is the right thing to do. The committee decided to have a suggestion box at the event where attendees can submit their thoughts, questions, and concerns. A more formal survey of the town will be conducted mid-year in 2023 with the POCD survey. In the discussion of requirements from the state, there was a public comment from M. Ricker. M. Ricker made the point that there is a benefit to deed restriction, since the value of the home is lower due to deed restriction, then your taxes are also lower. There was also a discussion about the benefit of

finding a developer who could build affordable housing units that fit the style of our town. D. Hawk suggested that a partnership with KNSA, Inc. might be advantageous in this case. After discussions concluded, the committee decided on the logistics of food, promotions, and program layout.

Responsibilities for the January 30 event were delegated as follows:

- i. Will Mason: Collaborate with C. Haase on food and get tray of cookies and water
 - ii. C. Haase: Pizza, Pasta salad, coffee with dispenser
 - iii. P. Colgan: Cheese & Crackers tray; post flyers around town
 - iv. to promote USDA & CHFA loans and accessory apartments (location, promotion, program/presenters, & gift cards).
 - v. D. Hawk: Design flyers and promote online
 - vi. B. Rathbun: Confirm the details concerning the main speaker
- b. Discuss next steps regarding town owned land. (The committee decided to table this discussion to the next meeting)

Public Comments: None

Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded (P. Colgan/B. Rathbun) to adjourn the meeting at 7:03pm.
Motion Passed (5:0)

Next scheduled Regular Meeting is January 23, 2023