

North Stonington Affordable Housing Committee
Location: Wheeler High School media center
Date: December 18, 2019

Minutes

Call to order: 6:00 by MaryAnn Ricker

Members present: Mary Ann Ricker, Laura Degoursey, Patrick Colgan, Connie Berardi, Brian Rathbun

Members absent: Margaret Leonard

Guests: Steve Colgan, Paul Buehler, Will Mason

Review of October minutes: deferred to January 2020 meeting

Citizen Comments: Paul Buehler mentioned that on Martha's Vinyard there was never opposition to affordable housing and that now there is a project for this. They now have a 501-c3 very actively going ahead on this project. Our town has KNSA.

New Members: Laura Degoursey voiced concern about the fact that the new member procedure was not followed. MaryAnn Ricker stated that this committee needs bylaws to address this issue. We have two new members, Brian Rathbun and Connie Berardi. Connie Berardi made a motion that we accept Paul Buehler and Will Mason as approved to join the AHC. Betty Russ 2nd it. Passed

Ordinance for tax abatement: in 2015 an ordinance was submitted to the selectmen. This is a policy for temporary or permanent tax abatement. This would be in the form of a deed restriction that would lower the home's value. This would be for a crisis situation. Yearly qualification would be required. Veterans and retirees are eligible for this now. Connie Berardi called Mark Brance and he recommended David Fink. This policy is sec. 8215 in CT housing law.

Rehab Grant: We have no update and do not know the deadline for applications. Betty Russ will contact Juliet Hodge to get an update.

Wintechog Hill: There will be a town meeting on January 6. Juliet Hodge will make presentation and then it will be referred to referendum on January 13.

Public Comments: Will Mason commented that he doesn't think the project is ready and that if we rush it then it will fail. Connie Berardi commented that the AHC has been working on this for 12 years.

Adjourn: Connie Berardi made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by Betty Russ. Passed at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Laura Degoursey

