



**Town of North Stonington
North Stonington Affordable Housing Committee
Regular Meeting
Monday, August 29, 2022 at 5:30 pm
Education Center Media Center
298 Norwich Westerly Rd.**

MINUTES

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

Members present: Will Mason, Denise Hawk, Brian Rathbun, and Patrick Colgan.

Members absent: Cheryl Haase, Margaret Leonard

Guests:

Staff Present: None

2. Addition to Agenda: None

3. Public Comment: Steve Colgan informed the committee of a proposal being brought to the Planning & Zoning Committee to purchase the Winehog property. He asked if the committee planned to attend the meeting and petition that the land be kept by the town and used to build affordable housing. After some discussion, W. Mason shared that he would attend the meeting to inform the Planning & Zoning Committee that most committee members (excluding B. Rathbun) would prefer the land to be used for affordable housing.

4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the July 25, 2022 Special meeting were approved as written.

5. New Business

a. B. Rathbun contacted someone from Groton Savings Bank who could explain the steps for accessing a CHFA loan and possibly the USDA loan. He is confirming his availability. The event will be held on January 30 at 6:30 pm. P. Colgan will create a poster to promote accessory apartments and look into inviting someone who can answer questions regarding accessory apartments. The committee will advertise the event to the general public and realtors.

b. W. Mason is working with Nate Reichert to explore the viability of promoting town owned lots as possible locations for builders to develop mixed-use properties (affordable housing & standard housing). The committee will discuss findings at the next committee meeting.

c. P. Colgan with S. Colgan presented details from the research they did regarding accessory apartment zoning regulation. They shared details regarding safety concerns, structural guidelines, and other parameters. They shared the importance of providing this information to help increase the dwellings available for people of varied income levels. Residents with unregistered accessory apartments can register them in order to reduce liability and to get the full benefit when you sell your home.

d. D. Hawk informed the committee of her findings regarding the NSAHC website and Facebook updates. Website updates are handled by North Stonington IT Manager, James Russell. B. Rathbun will contact James Russel regarding a website update. D. Hawk will investigate how to make updates to the NSAHC Facebook page.

6. Old Business

- a. B. Rathbun shared some community feedback he received regarding affordable housing. NSAHC continues to welcome feedback and ideas regarding our efforts to investigate opportunities and strategies for the development of affordable housing and providing a range of housing opportunities – in ways that match the scale and character of North Stonington

7. Adjourn A motion was made and seconded (P. Colgan/B. Rathbun) to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. Motion Passed (4:0)

Next scheduled Regular Meeting is September 26, 2022

Submitted by Denise Hawk, Secretary