

Walpole Housing Partnership
MEETING MINUTES/NOTES
(Meeting of June 22, 2011)

Present: Daniel Daley, Bernard Goba, Bruce Norwell, Don Johnson, Stephanie Mercandetti, and Denise Landry

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

We approved the meeting notes for our last meeting in April (May's meeting was cancelled).

The library assessment project. Bernie's is still waiting to hear from MHP on his design option to restore the Carnegie portion of the old library and build townhouses and additional parking on the site (in all, 17 units: 6-1BRs, 10-2BRs, and 1-3-BR). In addition, Bernie offered to sketch an all senior housing design because the original Rojas Design proposal did not consider such an option. We agreed that Dan would notify Michael Boynton that, although the MHP concluded the Rojas Design ("family") option would not be financial feasible, we were still assessing other affordable housing ideas for re-use of the old library. Bernie also attended a state-wide seminar on affordable housing issues which may help us to establish support and proceed with affordable housing initiatives in the future.

Habitat for Humanity. Denise mentioned that Habitat had given her Board members (for the Walpole Housing Authority) a recent presentation. Denise said that the initial response to the presentation was positive from Board members. This led to some general discussion on potential parcels owned by Housing and some of the technical issues involved in donating land for such a project. We will continue to discuss this topic.

Inclusionary zoning bylaw. We continued our discussion on an inclusionary zoning bylaw for the Town. We decided that a peer-to-peer assistance grant (approximately 30 hours) would be helpful in preparing for and drafting such a bylaw that is structured to our Town goals and needs. Stephanie will look into this possibility.

Other news. Sadly, Jon Rockwood resigned from the Housing Partnership this month. For ten years, Jon has been dedicated to the work of the Partnership (and the Affordable Housing Committee as it was known before the Board of Selectmen formally established the Partnership in 2009). Jon's leadership has played an important role in the growth and viability of the Partnership. We thank and congratulate Jon on his years of service as a member of the Partnership.

No votes were taken.

We agreed to meet next on July 20, 2011.

Dan closed the meeting.