

2016 JUL 14 AM 8:58

Belmont Housing Trust – Minutes for May 17, 2016 Meeting

Present: Helen Bakeman, Rachel Heller, Gloria Leipzig, Don Mercier, Tommasina Olson,

Absent: Judie Feins, Alisa Gardner-Todreas, Raffi Manjikian, Ann Verrilli

Guests: Jennifer VanCampen and Desiree Pelletier (Metro West CD); Julie Perkins, League of Women Voters (LWW) Action Committee on Planning and Housing

Minutes. The minutes for the April 15 meeting were approved.

Update from Town. Jeffrey was unable to attend but did report that the Royal Belmont (the new name for the Acorn Park development) was now doing interviews with those chosen in the lottery.

Update from Planning Board. No one from the Planning Board was present. Gloria will ask Jeffrey to check with the Planning Board chair about who will be their ex officio member of the Housing Trust.

Belmont Village Redesign. There will be no development proposal submitted to DHCD, because the agency is only interested in market-rate housing (not in adding additional affordable housing). The Housing Authority will hire a consultant to assess the redevelopment potential of Belmont Housing Authority sites.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston competition. The report has been issued.

Metro West Collaborative Development.

HPP communications and outreach: The HPP community forum is scheduled for Tuesday, 14 June at the Beech Street Center. The Trust reviewed and revised the proposed agenda. There will be meetings with MWCD on May 27 at 10 AM and on June 2 at 3 PM to plan for the forum.

The draft HPP Needs Assessment will be ready by 25 May.

All Trust members should continue community outreach to talk with as many organizations as possible prior to the forum.

First -Time Homebuyers Program. The CPA funds allocated to this project will need to be turned back to the Town CPA funds.

Future CPA Projects. Preliminary applications for next year's CPA funding will be due in September. After the forum, we will develop ideas for CPA-funded projects and meet with the CPC in July or August.

Other Business

Tomi mentioned that a 3,500 square foot building on South Pleasant St was for sale and might be a location for affordable housing. MWCD will take a look at the property and assess it.

Submitted by Helen Bakeman