

Belmont Housing Trust Minutes for January 15, 2015

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**Present:** Helen Bakeman, Judie Feins, Ann Silverman, Ann Verrilli Gloria Leipzig

**Absent:** Jensen Lozano, Barbara Fiacco, Alisa Gardner-Todreas, Tomasina Olsen

**Guests:** Steve LaFerriere and Hannah Brockhaus

**Minutes:** Minutes for December were approved.

**Update from Jeffrey Wheeler:** Jeffrey is gathering questions from the Planning Board re: the HPP presentation. The questions will be passed on to the Housing Trust for response.

Jeffrey and Helen will meet with Floyd Carmen regarding payment of the MWCD invoice for work on First Time Homebuyer Program.

**Housing Production Plan:** According to those in attendance at the Planning Board meeting, Chair Mike Battista's preference is not to adopt the HPP until more details are known about the Uplands. The Board of Selectmen will not look at the HPP until the Planning Board acts. The contract with MAPC has ended. Helen suggested that the HPP could be used as a framework for public discussion on affordable housing. The League of Women Voters might be interested in having a brown bag luncheon on HPP. This is one way to promote a community conversation.

**First Time Homebuyer Program:** Jennifer Van Campen of MWCD put a call in to DHCD on the status of the marketing proposal. She hopes that we might receive approval by the end of January. We will have a table at the MLK Breakfast at Belmont High and distribute flyers with information about the program. We need to get letters and materials to local realtors and banks. Steve will send Gloria a list of local banks that participate in the ONE program for soft second mortgages.

**Metro West Collaborative Development:** No projects currently in the pipeline for Belmont. Steve will meet with Donna Hamilton about a proposal to submit to the FHLB/CHAPA affordable housing competition on the redevelopment of Belmont Village. Steve believes the submission date is in February. There was a general discussion about other sites in Belmont with potential for affordable housing development. Hannah, the MWCD intern, will work with the Trust on community education and help with social media.

**Educational Outreach:** Judie will be working with the League of Women Voters on community education on affordable housing issues. Tomi Olson will work with Judie on outreach. Judie mentioned that a coalition of several groups in Belmont led by the First Church Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a series of talks on "A Path Appears". On March 7, there is to be a gathering of local non-profits that will provide an opportunity for these organizations to describe their mission and activities with interested members of the community. Judie will see if we can have a table at the event.

**General Administration:** Helen will contact Jensen regarding his appointment to the Trust.

We will wait until the trial starts on a former resident of Waverley Woods to decide whether or not to write a letter to the local media.

Submitted by Gloria Leipzig