

- **Belmont Housing Trust Minutes for 1/21/10**

- **In Attendance**—Judie Feins, Alisa Gardner-Todreas, Gloria Leipzig, Ann Verrilli, Charles Laverty, Ann Silverman, Jonathan Jacoby
- **Minutes**—The minutes for December 17, 2009 were approved as corrected.
- **CPA (Community Preservation Act)**—Judie reported that about 20 people attended the meeting on January 10, 2010, to discuss a campaign for passing the CPA for Belmont. Those attending came from the Historic District Commission, the Wellington School campaign and open-space/conservation interests, as well as affordable housing. Judie is looking for recreation contacts.
  - Representative Will Brownsberger advised that the legislation (SB90) to set state matching funds at 75% of funds raised by the CPA communities is not going to be considered this session. Judie is not sure about the fate of other provisions, such as raising the processing fee or loosening restrictions on use for recreation.
  - The next meeting is set for February 7, 2010.
- **Comprehensive Plan**—The Planning Board’s next public workshop for the Comprehensive Plan development is Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 7 PM. It will focus on the Commercial Areas.
- **Request from Sustainable Belmont**—The Trust has been asked to support and partner in “Cool Belmont.” The goal is for a minimum of 25% of Belmont households to participate in a low carbon program over three years. There was agreement that the Trust can support this, but it was not clear what it means to “partner.” Alisa will attend a meeting on February 3, 2010, and ask for additional information. A letter of support was approved and will be sent.
- **MHP (Massachusetts Housing Partnership) Grant**—Ann S. reported on the meeting of December 18, 2009, at which minor changes to the MOU (dated December 8, 2009) were agreed to. These included the project size and an option for each community to pick up a project in its jurisdiction if passed on by Metro West Community Developers, Inc. (MWCD).
  - Gloria asked if the projected funding goals were realistic. Ann said that is the reason for starting slowly to see how plans develop. Ann thought there was ultimately some chance MHP might be able to provide some funding.
  - Watertown will be host; the Director of Watertown Community Housing (WCH) will spend 5 hours per week on MWCD and the Project Manager 20 hours the first 6 months and 40 hours the second 6 months.
  - The Trust Board voted unanimously to join MWCD according to the provisions of the MOU of 12/8/09 and subject to review by the Town’s Office

of Community Development and the Town Counsel. The Board also voted to appoint Ann Silverman and Alisa Gardner-Todreas as the Trusts representatives to MWCD. Gloria Leipzig and Charles Laverty will be alternates.

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- **State Ethics Training**—Materials had been circulated outlining the requirement that Massachusetts municipal employees, including non-paid volunteers, participate in an on-line training by April 2, 2010. Chuck had completed the process and explained how it works.

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- **Other Business**—Gloria brought up the matter of the development proposal for Cushing Village and her concern that most of the reported reaction is negative. There is a need for fuller participation to work for constructive solutions to the objections raised. Judie will talk to Jay Szkult in the Community Development office and the developer, Chris Starr, with an eye to inviting Chris to meet with the Trust.

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- Submitted by Jonathan Jacoby