

Belmont Housing Trust
Town of Belmont
Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting date:	October 7, 2004
Meeting location:	Town Hall
Time meeting commenced:	7:30 p.m.
Time meeting ended:	9:15 p.m.
Members present:	
Sallye Bleiberg	yes
Roger Colton	yes
Judie Feins	yes
Jonathan Jacoby	yes
Nancy Marsh	yes
Ann Silverman	no
Associate members present:	
Art Heron	yes
Others present:	David Lopes/Andy Male (Habitat)

Roger Colton opened the meeting and distributed an agenda. Roger asked if there was anyone wishing to make a public comment to the Trust. No opportunity was requested.

The meeting began with the introduction of David Lopes, the new executive director of Habitat for Humanity and Andy Male, the volunteer project coordinator for the Brighton Street project. He has spoken with Katharine MacPhail. They will meet next Thursday. He has given her a retainer and engaged her services as the architect for the project. Joe Leiber, attorney from Goodwin/Procter, is waiting for instructions from the Town, before acting. Habitat for Humanity is ready to go forward with permits. Andy will work on these. He will also be organizing the fundraising efforts in Belmont. Habitat is building 22 units on the Dorchester/Roxbury line. David explained that they receive many "in kind" donations, e.g., supplies from lumber companies. Habitat has applied for a line of credit from Sterritt Lumber. Sterritt will provide some laborers for the project. David mentioned that the Whirlpool Corporation donates all appliances for Habitat homes. It was suggested that Locatelli Trust, managers of one of the retail blocks in Belmont Center, be contacted for contributions.

Some groups form buildathons. The groups come with cash donations and laborers. For instance, each volunteer will bring \$100 or more. One of the main ways of raising cash is to ask businesses or individuals for donations. Normally, it costs between \$120,000 and \$130,000 to build the house. The costs vary with each project.

Andy Male then addressed the group. He works for a consulting company in Cambridge, Stax, Inc. He has participated in Habitat builds and now volunteers with technical assistance. He plans to raise \$150,000 by 2/1/05. They would like to get started with the build by 3/1/05. They hope to be done by 9/1/05. There will be a conveyance and a dedication.

Andy spoke about assembling a list of names of religious communities within Belmont. He mentioned that McLean Hospital is the largest employer in Belmont. Sallye suggested that he contact Leo Saidneway for help. It was also suggested that Frank French of Flett Corporation be contacted for help. At some point, a Family Selection Committee should be formed. Roger

mentioned the need to transfer the land to Habitat to start the process. We should meet with Habitat again on Thursday, 10/28 at 7:30 p.m.

The Next Meeting will be on October 21, 2004. This will be a joint meet with the Belmont Housing Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Marsh, secretary