Belmont Housing Trust Town of Belmont Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: December 9, 2004

Meeting location: Town Hall Time meeting commenced: 7:30 p.m. Time meeting ended: 10:00 p.m.

Members present:

Sallye Bleiberg yes
Roger Colton yes
Judie Feins yes
Jonathan Jacoby no
Nancy Marsh yes
Ann Silverman yes

Associate members present:

Art Heron yes

Others present: Gloria Leipzig

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.

Minutes from the meetings of October 7, 2004 and October 21, 2004 were approved as corrected.

B Street: The B Street property has been transferred from ownership by the Town of Belmont to WATCH. Re. Outreach to the communities: Donna Hamilton of the BHA will distribute applications to residents of the Housing Authority. Judie suggested distributing something at the Martin Luther King breakfast.

<u>LISC</u>: Ann Silverman spoke about the educational forums which are to be held in Watertown and Belmont. They should be held in February or March. Ann also spoke about the development of the brochure and its distribution. We talked about whether we should include something in the March light bill. Also discussed was the possibility of conducting a forum on April 5, 6 or 7. LISC has talked about hiring a consultant to look into future collaborations on other affordable projects.

<u>Habitat for Humanity</u>: Katharine MacPhail will host a kick-off fundraiser on January 22, 2005. Andy Male will create a draft of a letter of solicitation. We will have a chance to review the letter. It was decided that Judie and Jonathan will review the appeal letter.

<u>Belmont Affordable Shelter Fund</u>: Currently, the balance is roughly \$5,000. Roger and Nancy will be co-signers on this account.

501(c)(3) tax status: Roger will contact Don Becker to see if he could help with this process.

State planning grant: This money could be used to create a proposal for Our Lady of Mercy church. Architect Cliff Boehmer, of Mostue Associates, has talked about the church re-use proposals. He would need to get into the church in order to make plans. We have enough money to pay him for this work.

<u>Vote</u>: A motion was made by Judie Feins, seconded by Sallye Bleiberg, to spend HOME dollars, up to \$5,000, to prepare an initial analysis of the Our Lady of Mercy property. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>VOTE</u>: A motion was made by Jonathan Jacoby, seconded by Sallye Bleiberg, to designate Mostue and Associates as the designated architects and to recommend a contractor for this development. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>VOTE</u>: A motion was made by Sallye Bleiberg and seconded by Judie Feins that the Town apply for a state planning grant of \$50,000 to fund the Our Lady of Mercy development planning work. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Chapter 40R</u>: Sallye passed out a handout from Mass NAHRO. There will be a training session on 40R in the spring. She will keep us informed.

McLean: The Board of Selectmen will meet this Friday to talk about McLean.

<u>Met State Land</u>: The question was asked whether the Trust should ask the School Committee to allow children living in the proposed Met State development, and living in units assigned as "affordable" to Belmont under the Met State comprehensive plan, to attend Belmont schools. The Trust by consensus decided not to seek this approval.

<u>The Next Meeting</u> will be on January 10, 2005 in the Community Room at Waverley Oaks at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Marsh, secretary