

Belmont Housing Trust Minutes for February 13, 2013

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA.

Present— Charles Clark, Judie Feins, Alisa Gardner-Todreas, Charles Lavery III, Gloria Leipzig, Ann Verrilli

Absent—Helen Bakeman, Jonathan Jacoby, Ann Silverman,

Minutes—Minutes for the meeting of January 17, 2013, were approved as amended.

MetroWest Community Development—Steve Laferriere emailed the MWCD report to Alisa who reported, in turn, that they expect to have some sort of agreement with Imler House in March. In addition, there was discussion around the potential development of the Crossroads Church. If MWCD were to pursue this opportunity, it was generally agreed that it was most appropriate as Special Needs Housing.

The Trust discussed delaying the work on the Housing Production Plan until after all the pre-Town Meeting-related meetings.

Planning Board Update—Chuck Clark reported that the Planning Board is currently considering a 6-12 month Demolition Delay for older buildings (pre-1920?). They are also creating a Religious and Municipal Zoning Amendment to encourage developers to preserve and re-use existing buildings. Jeffrey Wheeler is looking into what other towns do. Cushing Village is finished by Town Meeting.

Community Preservation Act—Judie Feins met with the originators of the CPA and will meet with David Kale on Feb. 14, to discuss how CPA works in Cambridge. Chuck Lavery explained that different CPC's work differently and that the Belmont Housing Authority chose to apply for funding for underground cables because it is their most pressing need, though he acknowledged that many are questioning it.

Inclusionary Zoning—The Working Group is making considerable progress on creating a new by-law that all can agree on. They consulted with Edy Netter, an attorney with considerable expertise on Inclusionary Housing, in response to the concerns brought to their attention by Town Counsel. The current draft raises the trigger, simplifies the formula for in-lieu of payments, and ties the language closer to that of the state's Local Initiatives Program. Further meetings and work on this are planned.

General Administration—A reminder was made that the state ethics training is due to be completed by April 5, 2013.

Submitted by Alisa Gardner-Todreas on behalf of Jonathan Jacoby