

SALISBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 16, 2021 5:30PM (VIA ZOOM)

- 1) Call to Order. Present: Abeth Slotnick, Vivian Garfein, Jim Dresser, Mary Close Oppenheimer, Pom Shillingford and Pat Hackett. Absent: Ethan Watt and Tiffany Riva.
- 2) **Approval of the Agenda. So Moved** by M. Close Oppenheimer, seconded by P. Shillingford and unanimously **Approved**.
- 3) **Approval of the Minutes of May 19, 2021. So Moved** by M. Close Oppenheimer, seconded by P. Shillingford and unanimously **Approved**.
Approval of the Minutes of May 25, 2021. So Moved by V. Garfein, seconded by M. Close Oppenheimer and **Approved**. P. Shillingford abstained (was not at the meeting)
Approval of the Minutes of May 26, 2021. This was a Site Visit; **no vote required**.
Approval of the Minutes of May 27, 2021. So Moved by J. Dresser, seconded by M. Close Oppenheimer and **Approved**. A. Slotnick abstained (was not at the meeting)
- 4) Coordinator's Report. There was one inquiry from the website for information about Holley Place. There was an update from John Harney, Salisbury Housing Trust (SHT); they are gearing up with George Johannesen to do a site plan for 2 houses on the Perry Street parcel.
- 5) Discussion: Holley Place Update
Peter Halle, Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC), explained that 3 Intervenors have filed an appeal to the Holley Place decision by the PZC. The appeal is scheduled for appearance on July 20, 2021 in Litchfield Superior Court. The SHC intends to fight and hopes to prevail. Mr. Halle indicated that he has made up a simple press release. P. Shillingford asked about reaching out to supporters of Affordable Housing via email. Mr. Halle added that Anne Kremer, SHC, was served as the SHC rep and causing her considerable distress. Notice was also served at the Salisbury Town Hall. Mr. Halle noted that the SHC is strategizing now, they will contest the appeal; there will be a delay.
- 6) Pope Sub-Committee Update.
J. Dresser informed the members about a conversation he had with First Selectman, Curtis Rand. Mr. Rand asked about the housing 'wish list' coming from the 3 housing organizations; J. Dresser indicated that the SHT would like 12 units, Habitat for Humanity would like 3 units and the SHC would like 49 units. The numbers are based on the Salisbury 2018 Housing Plan and include a mix of single family homes (deed-restricted) and rental units of different sizes. The list is going to be submitted to Mr. Rand and the Board of Selectmen. The Commission discussed other

ideas for the list, in addition to housing. J. Dresser mentioned that a professional resource will eventually work with the PZC, SAHC, Recreation Department and others on ideas for the Pope property development. Mr. Rand and the Board of Selectmen also want to be involved. The PZC will be hiring a consulting firm to work on updating the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). J. Dresser hopes the Pope property will be addressed separately outside of the POCD, but it's unclear if there will be any separate RFPs for the Pope property. There was discussion about getting additional soil testing done in specific areas. Mr. Rand has been talking with Scott Stevens, who did the original soil testing on the Pope property. P. Hackett feels there are unanswered questions; there could be additional buildable upland areas and possible 'islands'. The Sub-Committee will continue going forward with its work.

7) Discussion: 2021 Goals and Sub-Committees.

- Community Support for Affordable Housing. P. Shillingford would like to send out news of the Holley Place appeal. She is also interested in getting the film about Affordable Housing seen in more places. She added that there may be a private individual investing and renting apartments in Salisbury that are more affordable. M. Close Oppenheimer may be doing more articles; she will try to get names and contact information.
- Fundraising/Alternate Funding Sources. M. Close Oppenheimer suggested fundraising for additional independent donations to the SHC. J. Dresser thought donations could be used for the SHC legal expenses and other special expenses.
- Explore additional properties. J. Dresser indicated that Ethan Watt is working through a list.

8) New Business – None

9) **Adjournment. So Moved** by P. Shillingford, seconded by M. Close Oppenheimer and unanimously **Approved.**