

SALISBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 17, 2022 – 5:30PM (VIA ZOOM)

1. Call to Order. Present: Jennifer Kronholm Clark, Jim Dresser, Vivian Garfein, Pom Shillingford and Abeth Slotnick. Absent: Mary Close Oppenheimer and Pat Hackett.
2. Approval of Agenda. So Moved by A. Slotnick, seconded by V. Garfein and unanimously Approved.
3. Approval of Minutes of February 17, 2022. So Moved by J. Dresser, seconded by A. Slotnick and unanimously Approved.
4. Coordinator's Report – None
5. Discussion: Nominating Subcommittee Report/Recommendations
J. Kronholm Clark gave an update:
 - She announced that Tiffany Riva has stepped down from the SAHC, but is staying on with the Salisbury Housing Trust. That has created another vacancy on the SAHC.
 - The Nominating Subcommittee met with all but one of the candidates (M. Close Oppenheimer had a telephone meeting with Jon Higgins). They made the following recommendations: Katie White, Jon Higgins and Lee Sullivan. Brief biographies of each nominee were read, as well as their individual interests in serving on various subcommittees.

A Motion to Accept the Recommendations of the Subcommittee of the 3 Nominees was made by V. Garfein and seconded by J. Dresser. Discussion followed: P. Shillingford recalled that Lee Sullivan was originally opposed to the Pope property development. A. Slotnick indicated that L. Sullivan thinks differing opinions are good, that she is not against developing the Pope property, but would not support a suburban type of development; she would not actively oppose a development plan that is chosen. P. Shillingford suggested that other walking trails, other than the rail trail, be promoted. V. Garfein asked how these new people would work with the existing SAHC. Peter Halle, Salisbury Housing Committee, volunteered that he knows Lee Sullivan and thinks she would be a team player, with independent views. P. Shillingford offered her opinion that Jon Higgins is non-political and not confrontational; others agreed. The Motion to Recommend to the Board of Selectmen to Appoint Katie White, Jon Higgins and Lee Sullivan to the SAHC, made by V. Garfein and seconded by J. Dresser was unanimously Approved. It was noted that other candidates may be willing to help on subcommittees.

J. Kronholm Clark thanked Pom Shillingford for all of her service to the SAHC; she will be missed. Pom offered to continue being available for subcommittee work and writing letters.

6. Discussion/Follow-up: Community Engagement Mini-Grant Program, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity.

J. Kronholm Clark noted that the SAHC application had gone in for consideration. Jocelyn Ayer had encouraged narrowing down the list of possible projects. J. Kronholm Clark suggested that would be good for the Public Outreach subcommittee and adding new members to it. This may be another opportunity to work with the other Housing groups, as well.

7. Discussion: 2022 Goals and Subcommittees.

- Holley Place – Peter Halle indicated that there was no news; the on-going appeal process will take time.
- Pope Property – A. Slotnick reported on the first meeting with the consultants. She has reached out to the Housing Trust and Habitat regarding the size of units, such as duplexes and triplexes. She noted that the role of the consultants is to provide 2 or 3 sketches for eventual public input. V. Garfein mentioned that there was good feedback and that a site visit would be scheduled; the consultants may meet with other relevant Commissions.
- Perry Street – J. Kronholm Clark reported that the Housing Trust is working with Land Use and Planning & Zoning on a site design. They are also doing community outreach.
- Community Support for Affordable Housing (AH) – P. Shillingford has looked at the websites of other AH groups and did not find great examples. She reviewed all of the questions that had come up during the meetings on Holley Place and tried to incorporate the answers into a list to have in one place for information. She will send all of her work to J. Kronholm Clark. She feels it is important to get all of the information onto the SAHC website. She also suggested having definitions of housing terms for people understand and stop the spread of misinformation. She will keep working on this information, along with M. Close Oppenheimer.
- 414 Millerton Road – J. Dresser mentioned that he and A. Slotnick are working on a new idea for finishing the duplex, to present to Curtis Rand.
- Fundraising/Alternative Funding Sources – This is a subcommittee waiting for new members.
- Explore Additional Properties – On hold for new subcommittee members.

8. Chairman's Comments – Nothing further

9. Public Comments -- None

10. Adjournment. So Moved by P. Shillingford, seconded by A. Slotnick and unanimously Approved.