

SALISBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING – SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FUNDRAISING

MAY 11, 2023 – 2:00 (VIA ZOOM)

Present: Mary Close Oppenheimer, Jon Higgins, Lee Sullivan and Jim Dresser

1. Fundraising for Affordable Housing

M. Close Oppenheimer had spoken to Joe Cleaveland, regarding Town support. He indicated that conveyance fees are complicated and differ from year to year. He suggested a line item in the budget with certain specific amounts. J. Dresser pointed out that the budget was just approved, with specific amounts stated. He would be concerned about changing that set-up because the BOS likes it; L. Sullivan agreed that there is a good system in place now. J. Dresser suggested that large amounts need to come from a town meeting; J. Higgins added the need for specific plans and amounts needed. L. Sullivan mentioned that amounts do need to be specific, such as for East Railroad Street.

In terms of a general process for getting increase:

- Come up with a very specific plan and budget;
- Specify the exact amount of money being sought;
- Take to BOS and ask for a town meeting to get vote and approval for the AH Fund.

Steps going forward:

- Come up with a list of alternative funding sources
- Consider selling some town-owned land and use money for AH Fund
- Consider a “land acquisition fund” (a different subcommittee will explore)
- Ask people to donate land to town for AH
- Work with the Land Trust to include AH
- Bring ideas to the full SAHC
- Explore use of certain permit fees to go to AH Fund (such as from short term rentals)
- Check on availability of any accessory apartments for AH (zoning permits required)