

Weston Affordable Housing Trust  
June 8, 2020

**Housing Trust Members Present (“HT”):** Chair Sarah Rhatigan, Kenneth Newberg, Hugh Jones, Harvey Boshart, Susan Haber.

**Also Present:** Liz Valenta (RHSO), Leon Gaumond, Town Manager, Mignonne Murray, Council on Aging, Lisa Cukier, resident

Sarah Rhatigan read Governor Baker’s March 11, 2020 Executive Order to suspend certain aspects of the OML, in order to allow this meeting to proceed using Zoom

**Item 1: Public Comment:**

Lisa Cukier indicated that she was interested in other business.

Sarah spoke about how difficult it was to learn about the circumstances surrounding George Floyd’s death this week and pointed out that the Housing Trust strives to provide more housing opportunities and promote racial inclusion from outside the Weston community.

**Item 2: Minutes:**

The following were approved by Roll Call vote with Ken making the motion and Hugh seconding: 1/9/20, 4/21/20, 4/27/20 with Sarah, Ken, Hugh, Susan and Harvey voting Aye.

**Item 3: Review Final RFP for 0 Wellesley Street:**

Kathleen O’Donnell helped draft the RFP seeking to engage a developer who will create a maximum of 6 affordable units on the parcel to be approved under the LIP Program. The Trust has established criteria and will approve building design prior to submission to the ZBA. A working group will be formed to review responses to the RFP and make a final recommendation to the entire Trust. The group reviewed the RFP and a motion made and seconded to formally request the transfer of the property from the SB to the Trust and to issue the RFP. The vote was unanimous.

**Item 4: Review Brook School LIP/LAU Application for Building D:** The 24 apartments in the original buildings were included on the SHI. Back when they were approved, local preference was an allowable feature of the selection process for tenants. DHCD has a different view today of local preference and in order to get their approval for the apartments in Building D to be listed on the SHI, 6 units out of the 10 (25% of the units in Building D), when they become available, must comply with Fair Housing Laws. A new lottery will occur with names taken from the wait list with no local preference, under the LAU. The Elderly Housing Committee did not object and before the LAU application is submitted to DHCD the SB and HT must sign off. The Trust voted unanimously to send a letter of recommendation to the SB for the LAU application. Sarah will meet with the SB in July to discuss this and the transfer of land/RFP for 0 Wellesley Street.

**Item 5: Home Repair Grant:** A resident requested that the application process be re-opened. Trust declined to go ahead since there is no money currently in the revolving account and felt that we should hold off requesting general funds for the grant cycle. Instead, the Trust suggested that contact be made with the Resident to explore the Weston Cares Fund (Hugh will reach out) or the Merriam Street fund.

**Item 6: Housing Production Plan:** The Trust suggested that data collection for the Housing Needs section be split off from the rest of the Plan and generated by RHSO. There are sufficient funds left in the Town's contract with RHSO to do the work. The CPC has voted to grant administrative funds for hiring a consultant for the remainder of the work. The Trust will discuss the composition of the HPP Committee and felt that a representative from the following groups might be considered including the Trust, Planning Board, Council on Aging, and 2 at-large members. Sarah will meet with the SB to discuss this. The Plan should be completed by late March. In the meantime, the Trust will reach out to consultants who are familiar with the update requirements for the HPP.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Haber, Clerk Pro Tem