

Housing Advisory Committee approved Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2023

7pm

Present: Bill Hanson, Jackie Germain, Andy Bodnarik, Bob Holmes, David Bates, Barbara Marty, Michael J Smith, Bob Bower, Mark Allen, Elizabeth Labbe, Bret Ingold, Bob Blake, Karen Coyne, Janice Loz, and Ian Rogers.

Present via Zoom: Dana Myskowski, and Matt Taylor.

Call to Order 7pm

Co Facilitator Hanson covered some meeting procedures. He volunteered to type up the minutes for December, and advised the group we would go around the room and select a volunteer each month to type up the minutes going forward.

The minutes from the month of November were reviewed and approved with amendments.

Co Facilitator Rogers talked about the Central New Hampshire Housing Needs Assessment Document. Dana Miskowski, said she found the document easy to navigate.

There was a discussion on the HOP Grant, including timelines, and money expended in relationship to what has been done. Karen Coyne recommended we have Central Regional Planning do more work on the writing of the housing chapter. Bill Hanson provided an update on the grant funds expended to this point. Of the \$11,400.00, \$3,922.44 has been spent. The HOP Grant contract placed a limit on where the funds can be expended. A maximum of \$5,400.00 can be used for writing the housing chapter, and up to \$4,800.00 can be spent on community outreach. Matt Taylor provided an update on what Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission had done to this point and agreed to put together a draft of the Housing Chapter. Janice Loz expressed concerns with having Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission writing the portion of the chapter regarding the wants and needs of the Town's people. The group agreed that the translation of the survey results, and other community outreach, will be interpreted and written by the HAC.

Andy Bodnarik raised concerns about finding accurate data from the available sources. Andy and Matt Taylor agreed to connect via email to get some questions answered on this topic.

Co Facilitator Rogers started a discussion on surveys. The group looked over a previous survey from the Town of Warner, and a sample survey from Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission. The survey process and various questions were discussed by the group. An idea from Janice Loz was brought to the group, regarding the formation of a workgroup to focus specifically on the survey. The group agreed that this would be the most efficient path forward, and volunteers were identified.

Barbara Marty made a point about considering "Survey Fatigue", and that we should also allow survey participants to skip questions and submit incomplete surveys. The group agreed with both points. It was

brought to the attention of the group, that the Planning Board has set a deadline of April 2024 for the completion of the survey.

Jackie Germain, Bob Holmes, David Bates, Bret Ingold, Karen Coyne, and Ian Rogers are on the survey workgroup. They agreed to meet at 6pm on December 7th to discuss the survey, and they will update the HAC at the December 14th meeting.

Co Facilitator Rogers brought up the task of creating additional community engagement other than the survey. Andy Bodnarik introduced the idea of a flyer to use as a tool to increase engagement. The group agreed that a flyer and brochure are one in the same, and the original would be modified. Bill Hanson mentioned the upcoming Town of Warner 250th Birthday Celebration, and the January Primary Election as events we can utilize for outreach.

Bob Blake mentioned the importance of providing feedback to the community regarding the survey results, and using that for additional community engagement.

Dana Myskowski, brought up a few ideas to regarding community engagement, to include the library newsletter, events at Reeds North, and possibly forming an additional community engagement workgroup.

Co Facilitator Bill Hanson talked about adding a comment box to the HAC website. He will reach out to Dan Watts to get more information.

Co Facilitator Rogers brought up the idea of holding focus groups. There were concerns about focus group translation becoming bias data. Opinions were very mixed on this issue, but the overall consensus seemed to be that “doing it the right way”, is critical.

Meeting Adjourned 9:07 pm