

TOWN OF BARRINGTON
HOUSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF MEETING OF May 17, 2016

Members present: S. Martin, Chair; S. Rosevear; C. Brady; R. Staples; S. Boyajian; M. Winitsky

Also present: K. Weymouth, Town Council Vice President

- The approval of the minutes of the Board's April 2016 meeting was tabled.
- Mr. Martin announced that Jennifer Azevedo had been appointed to the Board as the first alternate member.
- Mr. Martin announced that he would be resigning from the Board and that this would be his last meeting as member. The Board discussed Mr. Martin's resignation. It was the unanimous sentiment that the Board would miss Mr. Martin's experience and contributions. The Board expressed great appreciation for Mr. Martin's years of service.
- Mr. Martin asked for expressions of interest from members of the Board to succeed him as chair. There were no expressions of interest by the remaining Board members. Mr. Martin suggested that Mr. Boyajian assume the duties of chairman until such time as the Board selected a chairman.
- Mr. Martin provided the Board with background concerning a property on Narragansett Avenue that could be a potential candidate for rehabilitation and deed restriction.
 - The property consists of an occupied single family residence situated on one lot with a vacant adjacent lot.
 - Certain rehabilitation of the property has already been funded through the use of the Spencer Trust.
 - The town planner indicates that there may be additional rehabilitation needs and that the owner may be willing to grant a deed restriction to the Town in exchange for additional rehabilitation funding.
 - The Board discussed the potential for obtaining a deed restriction and the potential use of the adjacent lot for affordable housing.
 - Mr. Staples noted that residency and fair housing issues may arise if Spencer Trust funds were used for creation of a new housing unit on the adjacent lot.
 - Mr. Winitsky made a motion that Mr. Staples investigate options regarding the Narragansett Avenue property and report back to the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and passed unanimously.

- Mr. Martin reported that he had been contacted by Frank Spinella on behalf of East Bay Community Development Corporation regarding two properties located on Sowams Road.
 - The properties were purchased by EBCDC in connection with the purchase of the former Sowams Nursery. EBCDC expressed an interest of disposing of the properties
 - One of the properties is occupied and the other unoccupied.
 - It is estimated that the occupied property needs between \$40,000 and \$50,000 of work. The occupant would like to purchase the property.
 - The Board discussed a variety of transaction structures through which the occupied property could be rehabilitated and deed restricted.
 - With respect to the unoccupied property, the Board discussed the Spencer Trust residency requirements and the potential conflict with fair housing laws in the event that Spencer Trust funds were used in rehabilitation and the property was brought to market.
 - Mr. Martin made a motion to appoint Mr. Staples to contact Mr. Spinella and investigate opportunities to capture the existing housing units on Sowams Road as affordable units. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rosevear and carried unanimously.
- Mr. Staples gave a brief presentation concerning the potential for advance funding from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation in anticipation of receiving fees in lieu.
 - Mr. Staples suggested that the Board undertake projects through other means in order to establish a track record of success prior to seeking funding from outside sources.
 - The Board expressed its general agreement that the Board should undertake projects funded through other means prior to seeking funding from LISC.
- Ms. Rosevear made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Brady and carried unanimously.