Town of Ayer

Department of Community & Economic Development of AYER

Town Hall ◆ One Main Street ◆ Ayer, MA 01432 ◆ 978-772-8220 ◆ Ext.142 CLERK

Minutes of February 8, 2023, Ayer Affordable Housing Trust (AAHT) Open Session Meeting Minutes.

Geof Tillotson, Chair AAHT, presiding. Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm

Members present: Geof Tillotson, James Stephen, Shaun Copeland, Colleen Krieser, Patricia

Bagni-Latimer joined at 6:35 Members absent: Cyndi Lavin

Agenda Items: General Business

Review and approval of agenda: no changes

Motion: A motion was made by Shaun Copeland and seconded by James Stephen to approve the

meeting agenda as posted. Motion passed by roll call vote 4-0-0

Review and approval of 1/19/23 meeting minutes:

A motion was made by James Stephen and seconded by Shaun Copeland to accept the meeting minutes from 1/19/23. Motion passed by roll call vote 4-0-0

Agenda Item: Ayer Commons Update

Alicia Hersey asked CPC representative Colleen Krieser if she had any information on NOAH's request for a letter of commitment from the CPC after the Town meeting vote to approve funds. Colleen Krieser reported that CPC chair Janet Providakes was working on a draft letter of commitment. The letter will be contingent on upon Grant Agreements being finalized. Alicia Hersey explained that NOAH needed this letter for Bank financing. Alicia Hersey reported that NOAH was working on both their financing of the property and DHCD's environmental requirements for the project.

Agenda Item: Rental Assistance Update

Alicia Hersey reported that since the opening of the Rental Assistance application period she had received 12 requests for applications and of those 12 applications, 4 had been completed and returned. She explained that she is expecting an additional 3 to 4 completed applications to be submitted this week. Alicia explained that the news of Ayers Rental Assistance program had been picked up by the Action Unlimited newspaper.

The Trust reviewed the need for a CPC request for funds for their Rental Assistance program FY24. They discussed whether this request should be made at the upcoming Spring Town meeting or later at the Fall Town meeting. A decision was made to wait until the Fall Town meeting, giving the Trust time to review the current expansion of the program to 10 families.

Agenda Item: Long Term Goals

Shaun Copeland brought up the possibility of a mortgage assistance program. Alicia Hersey reported that the Fuel Assistance program does help both homeowners and renters. Geof Tillotson brought forward the goals of the Trust when it was set up which include the creation of affordable housing units and helping to stabilize housing within our community. Geof Tillotson recommended that we invite the Housing Authority chair to the next meeting to discuss the need for senior subsidized housing. He also suggested that we investigate regional affordable housing projects.

7/11/23

Agenda Item: Public Comment & Questions

None

Agenda Item: New Business: None

<u>Agenda Item:</u> Old Business: Two-year appointments, Geof Tillotson asked that everyone review their schedules and see if they would like to be reappointed.

Next meeting:

AAHT- March 8th at 6:15 pm

Meeting Adjourned

Motion: James Stephens motioned to adjourn the meeting; Shaun Copeland seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm Motion passed 5-0-0