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By Linda Amerighi at 2:11 pm, Jun 07, 2022

MINUTES

Sharon Housing Plan Steering Committee

6/6/2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 and held via "Zoom". Attending were planning consultant Jocelyn Ayer, Selectman Dale Jones, Planning and Zoning member Larry Moskowitz, Sharon Housing Authority treasurer Pat Whelan, Former N.W. CT Habitat for Humanity Exec. Dir. Bob Whelan, and Social services agent Melia Hill.

Members reviewed the draft Sharon Housing Affordability Plan, and made several corrections. Jocelyn will remove a section entitled "Addressing Community Opposition". The section doesn't fit the housing plan strategy, and lacks relevance. There was a headline adjustment to the section on regional housing needs. The reference to the state mandate for an affordable housing plan will include "Connecticut", or "CT". The title of a future committee which will carry out the housing plan will be changed from "housing plan implementation committee" to "Affordable Housing Committee". A sentence regarding housing affordability will insert the word "may", replacing the word "don't". Jocelyn said she will enhance the link to an affordable housing video that readers can click on to watch.

A section which will give details about the Sharon Housing Trust will be provided by current leadership at the Trust, and Sharon Housing Authority treasurer Pat Whelan will provide overview information about that group.

Melia asked if the plan should include more encouragement toward state housing vouchers for those renters who qualify. It may lead to more property owners being interested to renting their units at a net affordable rate, with the vouchers making up the difference.

Jocelyn will make changes to the draft document, and circulate it to the committee for review. The plan is for the committee to hopefully approve the plan at the July meeting, which has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 5th, since the normal meeting date on the first Monday falls on July 4th, a holiday.

Upon approval, the plan will be uploaded to the town website for at least 35 days, and then the committee hopes to meet with the Planning and Zoning Commission to see how the plan fits the town plan of Conservation and Development. Larry is looking into possible dates in August, with a hoped-for date of August 24th.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dale Jones, seconded by Bob Whelan, and the meeting adjourned at 6:32p.m.

Submitted,

Dale Jones acting Secretary