

Minutes of the  
Affordable Housing Committee meeting  
April 22, 2021 Via Zoom

Members present: Lauren Sandi, Jamie Stirling, Alex Hutchinson, Lesley Higgens-Bidddle, Kimberly McClure Brinton, Lars Demander.

Members absent: Greg Antignani

Staff: Lina Frazer, Hiram Peck

Others present: Carol Lambase, Clark Hurlbert, Norman Cole, Fred Nevin

Alex opened the meeting at 7:05. Hiram reaffirmed that our purpose is to advise P&Z who will then implement recommendations if they choose. Mission is to increase the number of affordable units in town. Hiram described the data available.

Discussed: if people in town feel the need for other housing types? Q. How are affordable housing units created? A. Created by private non-profits, church groups, developers, current owners. Is there an interest in encouraging smaller homes?

Alex reported that Kim, Hiram, Paula Cofrancesco, and Alex had a call with the Council of Governments. Other towns are going through the same process.

Discussed: Is there is interest in having housing in a specific location? Do we want alternatives for teachers, elders, young people? Desired design alternatives considered – having two or three units in a mansion-type building. Will additional housing have a positive or negative impact on the town? Tax base, services, sustainability, economic diversity.

Discussed Survey: finalizing questions, how to distribute (electronic or paper or both), how to tabulate.

Discussed financing housing that meets town goals: is there interest in subsidizing housing with state, federal or town funds? Do accessory apartments increase a unit's value (and taxes) or are local tax incentives desirable?

Discussed the outline of the Survey to include: What is affordable housing? Why is the town doing a plan? A data section, results of the survey, types of housing being proposed and how are we going accomplish the goal (recommendations).

The meeting was closed at 8:30

*James Stirling /rf*  
Respectfully submitted; James Stirling, 20 Miller Road.

