

MINUTES
TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
Affordable Housing Commission
May 15, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER. Evelyn Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. (a) ROLL CALL. Present: Evelyn Smith, Jake Wolfgang, Sandra Puchalski, and Thom Cahir.

Council President Deb Carney was in attendance as council liaison.

3. MINUTES: On a motion by Wolfgang, seconded by Puchalski, the minutes for March 2024 were accepted as submitted on a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Smith, with a notation that the minutes from Sept., Oct., and Nov. 2023 have been in draft form for months, seconded by Wolfgang, the outstanding minutes were accepted as submitted on a unanimous vote.

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) The chair discussed seeking an opinion from the Ethics Commission about continuing on as chair or if resigning or becoming a sitting member of the committee is possible if she gains approval for a housing development in front of the Planning Board currently.

(b) Letters to town department heads discussed in March are still being formulated so that interdepartmental communications can be more efficient in matters concerning affordable housing.

(c) Member Cahir spoke with Allan Fung who represents Wingate, the management firm at Churchwoods to try to facilitate a meeting between all parties to alleviate residents' concerns about overpaying.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Liaison: Council President Carney reported on the status of current AHC issues and that the town was currently in compliance with state law.

(b) Annual Objectives 2024: The committee discussed future objectives and the need for individual members needing to target specific interests or departments where they would like to take an active role interacting with a department head to help advance affordable housing issues.

On a motion from Wolfgang, seconded by Cahir it was agreed by unanimous decision to move committee assignments to the next meeting.

6. On a motion by Wolfgang, seconded by Cahir, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm. The vote was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Thom Cahir
Secretary