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## **Burlington Housing Partnership Committee**

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### **Meeting Minutes**

August 29, 2022, via Webex

**Committee Members Present:** Kerry Donahue (KD), Chair  
Eileen Sickler (ES), Vice-Chair  
Henry Wu (HW), Secretary  
Michael Runyan (MR)  
Rita Shah (RS)

**Committee Members Not Present:** John Sullivan (JS), Toni Ann Natola (TN)

**Other Attendees:** Shari Ellis (SE), Drew Merrill (DM)

- KD called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.
- **Public Participation** – n/a
- **Community Preservation Act (CPA) Endorsement** – Shari Ellis (CPA) requested endorsement from BHPC to help get word out on CPA and it may help with affordable housing in Burlington. HW made motion to endorse CPA and was seconded by KD. The motion was approved 5-0-0. After the vote, KD asked MR if he has had the chance to connect with John Sachs regarding making short video on affordable housing. MR stated that he was scheduled to do so next Monday (September 5<sup>th</sup>).
- **Pero Farms** – SE brought to the attention of the BHPC that Pero Farms, encompassing 7 acres, will potentially be coming up for sale. The lot is located on Lexington Street near Stoney Brook Road. She noted that it may be worthwhile to preserve for affordable housing although funding for the town to purchase may be a challenge given that the Municipal Housing Trust has not yet been established and the town is not currently funded to purchase. Discussion centered on Burlington having first right of refusal for purchase given that the lot is taxed at a discounted rate as agricultural land therefore there is caveat for first right of refusal by Burlington. There is wetland on the property which may limit how the property is developed. The town's Select Board into options for acquisition.
- **Housing Needs Assessment Report Roll-out Plan** – KD presented Board/Committee dates and BHPC presenters identified to date. MR will be presenting to Select Board and recommended inviting Economic Development for synergy. KD and DM will review planned meetings to see

whether if the meetings are virtual or in-person.

- **Grandview Farm Application** – DM presented the proposed Waitlist Guidelines and Eligibility Requirements. Discussion revolved around the asset limitations for eligibility and what other nearby communities have set for their affordable housing requirements. KD desired that the BHPC come to consensus on the waitlist guidelines and eligibility requirements so that the wording can be provided to the Select Board for approval and then submission to Liz Rust for incorporation in the Grandview Farm application and having the current waitlist requalified. process for open units at Grandview. DM highlighted that we need to ensure that the asset limitations are consistent with the deed language for the type of housing.
- **119 S. Bedford Street** – MR provided update on 119 S. Bedford. Inspection has identified presence of asbestos albeit limited to the mechanical areas of the house. Lead paint was also found on one of the bedroom walls and needs remediation. Otherwise, the house is in fairly good condition. KD asked about the next step. MR stated desire to hire a general contractor to undertake necessary fixes to the property. KD stated that we should come up with a game plan.
- **Old/New Business** – n/a
- **Minutes** – KD asked for motion to approve past meeting minutes (28 June 2022, 19 July 2022, 16 August 2022, and 19 August 2022). ES pointed out there are typos in the 16 August and 19 August minutes. With regards to the 16 August minutes, correction to the Town Moderator’s name should be made to read “Bill Beyers” vice “Billy Beyers”. As for the 19 August minutes, the first item had misspelling of “Housing” in the third to last line. HW stated that he will make the corrections. MR made the motion to approve the 28 June, 19 July, 16 August, and 19 August with the noted corrections. ES seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.
- **Next Meeting** – the next meeting will be September 20, 2022 at 5:00PM.
- **Adjourned** – the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.
- **Minutes approved** - TN made a motion to approve the minutes for August 29, 2022. ES seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0-0 on September 29, 2022
- Respectfully Submitted,  
Henry Wu, Secretary