WAYLAND HOUSING PARTNERSHIP Minutes – January 7, 2020

Submitted by Rachel Bratt Unanimously approved February 25, 2020

Attending: Mary Antes, Kathy Boundy, Rachel Bratt, Chris DiBona, David O'Leary, Katherine Provost, Daria Tucker, Robi Zallen

Meeting called to order at 7:35

- 1. Unanimously approved minutes from November 19, 2019 meeting. Motion to approve by Mary; seconded by Katherine.
- 2. Discussed whether the Housing Partnership should request funding from the Community Preservation Committee to hire a consultant to prepare a revised Housing Production Plan. Mary mentioned that the Housing Trust had discussed the previous proposed application, that would have asked the Community Preservation Committee for funding to carry out a community planning process, which was to accompany the preparation of the Housing Production Plan. She noted that the Trust is interested in maintaining and producing affordable housing, but did not want to support the community process. The proposal under consideration would cover the cost of hiring a consultant to revise the Housing Production, including carrying out a more modest community planning process. Robi moved to support the application to the Community Preservation Committee for funding to hire a consultant to prepare a revised Housing Production Plan. Seconded by David. Approved unanimously.
- 3. Rachel noted that she had been chair of the Housing Partnership for about 8 years and that she felt it was time for someone else to take over. She mentioned that there were several potential candidates but felt that Katherine Provost's knowledge about housing and her connection to the Wayland Housing Authority would make her an ideal chair. Rachel moved that Katherine Provost assume the role of Chair of the Housing Partnership, effective April 1, 2020. Seconded by Kathy. Approved unanimously.
- 4. Chris shared sketches of the River's Edge development. She mentioned that the ZBA has approved 218 units to be built on the site. The plan is to break ground at the end of the summer, with a planned occupancy of 2021.
- 5. Mary noted that Sarkis will soon be convening a meeting to discuss Launcher Way. She also said that Peace Lutheran Church is still interested in the possibility of using a portion of their site for affordable housing. David added that his church is working with the Archdiocese of Boston to assess whether some affordable housing could be built on the property of what was formerly known as St. Ann's Church (Good Shepherd Parish). The Planning Director of the Archdiocese, Bill Grogan, has completed a survey of the property and David is awaiting to hear next steps. Committee members continue to be very enthusiastic and supportive of these potential projects.
- 6. New business: Katherine mentioned that work is continuing on the proposal to use Wayland's portion of the federal HOME funds to provide rental assistance, particularly security deposits and first/last month's rent, to housing authority or Section 8 tenants.

The Wayland Housing Authority staff regularly works with residents who could benefit from such assistance and it makes sense for the WHA to administer this new program. Following our discussion, David moved that "The Wayland Housing Partnership supports the Wayland Housing Authority ("WHA") to administer the Tenant Based Rental Assistance program, funded through the HOME program." Robi seconded. Unanimously approved. Katherine offered to draft a letter to be sent to the Assistant Town Administrator supporting this proposal.

- 7. Next meeting: February 25, 2020
- 8. At 8:25 Chris motioned to adjourn, seconded by Katherine