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**Town of Fairfield  
Office of Community & Economic Development  
Affordable Housing Commission  
March 17, 2010**

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FAIRFIELD, CT

The Affordable Housing Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on March 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in Old Town Hall.

**PRESENT:** Steve Grathwohl, Chair; Mary Galgota; Nan Jackson; Dick Gribko

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mark Barnhart, Director, Office of Community and Economic Development; Sally Parker

Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

***Minutes***

The minutes of February 17, 2010 were approved as revised.

***Annual AHC Report to the Town***

Mr. Grathwohl distributed a draft copy of the Annual AHC Report to the Town. It was suggested that in the statistical analysis, the word 'attainable' be used in place of 'affordable' when referring to the Home Price. Mr. Barnhart will revise and edit the report, including suggestions of committee members. He will e-mail it to the AHC. It will be submitted to the RTM by the end of March. Ms. Jackson said the report should express the mission of the Committee. Mr. Gribko said a definition of 'affordable housing' would be helpful.

***CDBG Program***

Mr. Barnhart said all workshops related to this program have been completed. He said applications for projects under the program must be submitted to his office by March 19. Mr. Grathwohl asked when the next public hearing would be held. Mr. Barnhart said it would be in May. Mr. Grathwohl asked what new projects had been proposed. Mr. Barnhart said that among the suggestions were sidewalks for the Black Rock/Tunxis Hill area, some new tennis courts and refurbishing the bathrooms at the Senior Center. Over the summer, he will be writing the 5-year plan in order to submit it to HUD by the August deadline.

***Joint Board Meetings***

Mr. Grathwohl distributed a list of Fairfield Boards, Departments and Commissions. The list was reviewed to determine with which ones it was appropriate for the AHC to interact with on a scheduled basis. The purpose would be to inform these bodies of the mission and work of the Committee and to

enlist support for the concept of and need for affordable housing. Those groups deemed of interest were the Seniors & Social Services Department; Planning & Zoning; Fairfield Housing Authority; RTM; Economic Development Commission; Human Services Department and Land Acquisition. Mr. Barnhart said he would be attending a meeting the Fairfield Housing Authority in April to discuss the CDBG Program. Mr. Grathwohl will prepare a list for the April meeting.

### ***Train Station***

Mr. Barnhart said work on the bridge, road, platform and elevators is under way. It said it would be 2011 before trains stop there. Ms. Parker asked if surrounding land was being purchased in anticipation of the station being functional. Mr. Barnhart said this does not seem to be happening yet. He attributes this to the economy and the fact that the station does not seem to be a 'reality' to many people yet.

### ***HomeConnecticut***

Mr. Barnhart said only two state communities have applied for aid through the HomeConnecticut legislation. He said the town has to buy into it and at this point the P & Z is not receptive.

### ***Stimulus Funds***

Mr. Barnhart said there have been no new funds distributed to Fairfield.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner