

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

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

PRESENT: Steve Grathwohl, Chair; Nan Jackson; Mary Galgano

Also Present: Mark Barnhart, Director of Housing and Economic Development, Lissa Thompson, Operation Hope; Sally Parker

Distributions: Minutes from October 20, 2010

Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes

Approval of the minutes of October 20, 2010 was postponed due to lack of a quorum.

Campfield Drive Development

Ms. Parker said the hearing was televised and should be available on channel 79. The meeting was continued to December 14, 2010. Questions were raised by TP & Z members as to the land costs, number of units to be built and the effect on the neighborhood. Ms. Parker said the parking factor generated the biggest discussion.

Revisions to Senior Housing Regulations

There was no motion on this question.

Commerce Drive Zoning Study

Mr. Barnhart suggested getting as many proponents of a housing element to attend the meeting on the regulations that will be held after the first of the year. He understands the final drafts will be available later this week and he will e-mail them to the commissioners. Mr. Barnhart emphasized the need for a strategy to promote affordable housing as part of the plan. He suggested enlisting Peter Penczer, chair of the EDC as a speaker as well as representatives of other parties who advocate for housing solutions. Mr. Barnhart said the staff of P & Z was supportive of a 10% inclusionary factor. Other supportive entities would be the Bridgeport Regional Plan Association and Supportive Housing. Mr. Barnhart suggested developing a small, tight circle of influence for the hearing.

Black Rock Train Station

Mr. Barnhart said paving of the part of the parking lot is about to take place. This Area will provide employee parking and space for trucks to be decontaminated. Retaining walls are being constructed and wetland restoration is being completed. Among other installations are charging stations for electric cars and footings for a future concourse facility. Mr. Barnhart expects to meet with the DOT soon to begin to assess the future uses of the three stations in town.

CDBG

Mr. Barnhart said his office has received notification from HUD of a \$600,000 grant to fund programs for the next fiscal year.

Other Business

Mr. Barnhart said Whole Foods is moving ahead with construction and is expected to open in the summer of 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner