

**Town of Fairfield  
Office of Community & Economic Development  
Affordable Housing Commission  
March 21, 2012**

The Affordable Housing Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on March 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in Old Town Hall.

**PRESENT:** Steve Grathwohl, Chair; Richard Gribko; Mary Galgota

**Also Present:** Mark Barnhart, Director of Housing and Economic Development; Sally Parker

Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Distributions:** Minutes of February 15, 2012

### **Minutes**

The minutes of February 15, 2012 were approved.

### ***130 Fairchild Avenue***

Mr. Grathwohl said he had sent a letter on behalf of the AHC to the P & Z in support of the proposal for apartments on Fairchild Avenue. He said 19 people were at the public hearing to oppose the development. Objections included lack of infrastructure to support the project, flooding hazards in the area, potential traffic problems. Because Garden Homes is using an 8-30G application, the P & Z would have to deny it on very narrow grounds. The developer could appeal a negative decision.

### ***Fairfield County Foundation***

Mr. Grathwohl said that he and Ms. Parker attended a recent meeting of the Fairfield County Foundation. They received some useful information about grant sharing and best practices.

### ***Thorpe Street/Lumber Yard***

Mr. Grathwohl said the Conservation Commission had approved a condominium development for this site. No affordable units are included in the plans.

### ***Outreach***

Mr. Grathwohl said he has contacted several organizations that might be supportive of affordable housing to come to the AHC meetings. A representative of the League of Women Voters will come to the April meeting. He will invite Nancy Hadley of Mutual Housing to attend in the near future.

### ***CDBG***

Mr. Barnhart said the funds allocated from HUD were some of the lowest in recent years. His department is reviewing the applications from the community. He is asking the town to cover the salary of one of his staff in order to continue to provide the services of the EDC.

### ***Commerce Drive/Train Station***

Mr. Barnhart said there have been inquiries from potential commercial tenants but no contracts have been signed. Black Rock Realty wants to convert one proposed commercial building to residential. If this becomes reality, 10% of the units would have to be affordable. Ms. Parker asked if the development would be subject to 8-30G regulations. Mr. Barnhart said the town could ask the state for a moratorium to immunize the project from 8-30G.

### ***Turner Army Reserve***

Mr. Grathwohl suggested someone from the AHC should be informed of progress in the redevelopment of this site. Mr. Barnhart said there was no news at this point.

### ***Exide***

Mr. Barnhart said the DEEP would have a public hearing on this property before approving the plan. There will also be an informational meeting with town boards. There is no decision document yet.

### ***Sasco Hill/Post Road***

Mr. Barnhart said the developer has re-applied for a retail/office building on this corner.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner