

**Town of Fairfield
Affordable Housing Committee
Minutes of April 24, 2013**

The Affordable Housing Committee of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on April 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in Roger Ludlowe Middle School.

PRESENT: Steve Grathwohl, Chair; Deb Owens; Jill Hroziencik

Present: Mark Barnhart, Director of Housing and Economic Development; Vincent Maiolo

Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. .

Osprey Landing

Mr. Grathwohl said Atty. Fallon mentioned the letter from the AHC regarding this development as part of his presentation to the P & Z. A decision on the project will be based on criteria other than that mentioned by the AHC.

Blackrock Realty

Mr. Grathwohl said the developers would reschedule their presentation. Representatives of the Fairfield League of Women Voters will attend the May meeting.

Affordable Housing Plan

Mr. Grathwohl distributed information about an Affordable Housing Plan developed for the town of Salisbury, CT. He indicated he thought this could be an effective template for a proposal for Fairfield. Ms. Owens asked how Salisbury obtained information from residents that contributed to the report and how the plan was promoted to the town's residents. Mr. Grathwohl said one of the first decisions seemed to be to survey residents of the town. Ms. Hroziencik asked if there were a timeline in place to aid in developing a plan for Fairfield. Mr. Grathwohl said this still needs to be created. A plan needs to be ready by November. The commissioners and Mr. Maiolo made suggestions as to how to move the process forward and how to bring the public on board. This will involve education and public relations efforts.

Mr. Grathwohl will investigate SurveyMonkey as a tool.

Mr. Barnhart will enlist the help of some homeowners in the Navy housing development. He is reaching out to the appropriate staff members at Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University. He is also addressing the web page design with the town's web master. In a recent meeting with the P & Z, he was able to introduce the concept of incentive housing zones for Fairfield as well as mixed-use and transit related areas.

Mr. Maiolo will analyze comments on the Fairfield Patch regarding affordable housing in order to plan efforts to address the myths of building such units.

Ms. Owens will develop a list of civic organizations and their contacts.

Ms. Hroziencik will look for photos of existing affordable housing in town and surrounding areas.

Mr. Grathwohl said there would be a need for subcommittees and additional meetings in order to arrive at a viable plan.

Grant Application for Planning Assistance

Mr. Barnhart said there has been no announcement of the awards yet.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner