

**Town of Fairfield
Affordable Housing Committee
Minutes of August 21, 2013**

The Affordable Housing Committee of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on August 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Old Town Hall Conference Room.

PRESENT: Steve Grathwohl, Chair; Deb Owens; Dick Gribko; Gerry Stuhlman

Also Present: Mark Barnhart, Director of Community & Economic Development; Sally Parker

Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of July 17, 2013 were approved.

CT Affordable Housing Fund

Mr. Barnhart said the town has received unofficial word of the awarding of a \$20,000 grant to be used toward the development of an updated Affordable Housing Plan. He distributed a 'Request for Qualifications' that has been sent to consultants. Responses are due by September 3, 2013. The goal is to advise the AHC in developing "strategies to reinvigorate efforts to create affordable housing in Fairfield". Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Grathwohl will serve on the review committee. After the selection of a consultant, Mr. Barnhart and the AHC will discuss priorities and refine the scope of the project with the awarded party.

Proposed New Fair Housing Regulations

Mr. Grathwohl said that he and Mr. Barnhart had a meeting recently with representatives from HUD. Discussion centered on new federal regulations relating to affordable housing with the goal of assuring that communities are cooperating with HUD to meet national goals. Among the issues discussed were the Garden Homes development and the suit filed against the town by the developer.

Osprey Landing

Mr. Barnhart expects no further action on this plan for the time being.

CDBG Program

Mr. Barnhart said he has submitted the town's plan to HUD for the fiscal year starting October 1, 2013.

Fairfield Housing Authority

Mr. Barnhart said Ms. Martin and the Board of the Fairfield Housing Authority are working on plans to recapitalize Pine Tree Court and Trefoil Court. The plans will require zoning approval and no applications have been filed at this time.

Exide Battery Site

Mr. Barnhart said that a revised remediation plan for the Mill River is expected to be approved shortly.

Turner Army Reserve

Mr. Gribko asked if there was any chance this property could be used for affordable housing. Mr. Barnhart said that the town effectively ruled out this use. He mentioned that transfer of military property is lengthy, and he expects no action any time soon.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner