

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND (AHTF)
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, March 1, 2018

6:30 PM – Great Barrington Fire Station, 37 State Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Cooke, Chairman; Fred Clark; John Katz; Jonathan Hankin; Samantha Homeyer and Cara Davis. Town Planner, Chris Rembold, arrived late.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bruce Marzotto. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Shep Evans, Administrator.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Cooke called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

MINUTES: The minutes of February 1, 2017 had been previously circulated. **Motion by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve the minutes as circulated. Unanimous approval.**

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Update on an attempted purchase of a foreclosure property in Housatonic. The sale was called off.

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Mr. Cooke opened a discussion of the Down Payment Assistance Program and group editing of the related promotional materials, mortgage and promissory note as approved by Town Council. An active discussion and editing exercise ensued. **Motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Hankin, to adopt all as modified.**

Unanimous approval.

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Mr. Cooke opened a discussion of the proposed CPC Grant Agreement. Thereafter, **Mr. Cooke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve the Grant Agreement subject to elimination of paragraphs #9 and #13, which relate to the loan agreement. Unanimous approval.**

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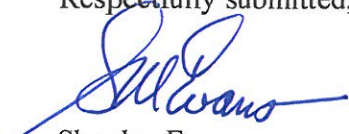
Mr. Cook opened a discussion of alternative ways of financing workforce housing. The board examined the options of building new vs. renovating pre-existing units. The group examined the affordability of small units as little as 400 sq. ft. and pay scales as low as \$12 per hour. Mr. Rembold arrived and opined that the board really needed to decide whether it wants to build new (which will consume a large amount of time and financial resources) or do rehab and loan support projects, which should produce more units initially.

CITIZEN SPEAK TIME: None.

NEXT MEETING: Scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 6:30PM at the G.B. Fire Station. It was agreed that the Board needs to work on "talking points for Town Meeting concerning CPA dollars being sought".

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Cooke, hearing no objection, adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Shepley Evans
Administrative Support