

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

**Tuesday, September 24, 2019, 6:30 PM
Great Barrington Fire Station, 37 State Road**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Johnathan Hankin, John Katz, Samantha Homeyer, Bill Cooke, Fred Clark, Garfield Reed.

GUESTS: Larissa Yapple, Eileen Mooney.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Cooke called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Hankin, 2nd by Mr. Katz, to approve the minutes of August 5, 2019. Unanimous approval.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mr. Clark nominated Mr. Cooke to be Chairman, 2nd by Mr. Katz, unanimous approval. Mr. Reed nominated Mr. Clark to be Vice Chairman, 2nd by Mr. Hankin, unanimous approval.

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The Part 1 application to the CPC for funds to purchase the Alden property on North Plain Road was reviewed. In discussion, it was suggested that the application should be for \$200,000 to cover purchase and expenses. **Motion by Mr. Clark to approve the change to \$200,000, 2nd by Mr. Hankin.** In discussion it was understood that for Part 2 of the CPC application, though no confirmation of certainty of the real estate purchase could be provided, there would be letters of support forthcoming, and the signed Purchase and Sale Agreement will be included as support. **Vote: Unanimous approval.**

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Mr. Cooke initiated a discussion of the status and outlook for the Grove Street house, acknowledging that there was a question as to whether the Selectboard should issue an RFP directly or through the GBAHT. Mr. Cooke suggested that the town directly issue the RFP. The Affordable Housing Trust could hold the affordable housing deed restriction if the town desired. Discussion focused on how quickly the transfer could take place. Transfer to the Affordable Housing Trust may allow it to go before the spring 2020 town meeting. Mr. Cooke will talk to Mr. Rembold as to the mechanisms of going through the Affordable Housing Trust or directly from the Town of Great Barrington.

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Miscellaneous discussion among Board members included:

- Board Members have been invited to an open house at Bostwick Gardens on October 10.
- A recap of the joint meeting of the Planning Board and Selectboard on Affordable Housing.
- Preliminary discussion with an additional down payment assistance program.
- Discussion about improving web page and social media. Ms. Yapple offered to take responsibility for social media posting. Ms. Mooney noted that a Board Member cannot be paid by the Trust. Larissa agreed to donate her time.
- October 16, 2019 the Berkshire Board of Realtors will have its second annual affordable housing meeting in Pittsfield. Several members are planning to attend.

Hearing no objection, Mr. Cooke adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Shepley/ll Evans*