Affordable Housing Trust

Meeting & Update

May 4, 2012

Members Present: Michael Lombardo, Peter Britton, Fred Mills, Brian Stein, and Kristine Cheetham

Discussion: The members of the Trust met to discuss ways to work towards a common goal of establishing more affordable housing for the town of Hamilton. The Trust agreed that there were several strategies worth researching and revisiting for the community. Those are as follows:

Deed Restrictions
Funding for Improvements & Rehabilitation
Update the Housing Production Plan
Foreclosures
LIP (Local Initiative Program)
Develop New Projects/Units
Address 3% status listed with State for 40 B's.

The Trust also discussed the possibility of hosting an event(s) to re-introduce the discussion of affordable housing. It was clear that the first step was to identify potential stakeholders of the discussion. A second step would be to research and prepare information on the options for the community.

Massachusetts Housing (DHCD) provides technical assistance to communities for this purpose. Kristine will work with staff at the state level to see what is available for the Trust. She will also attend a conference put on by Mass. Housing Partnership focused on affordable housing strategies in June.

Potential Stakeholders (not a full listing) – Council on Aging, American Legion, Rotary, Teachers Union, Police & Fire Unions, Parent Groups, Red Barn Group, Wenham Groups that are similar, Religious affiliations, Local Food/Service pantries, Town Boards/Committees (selectmen, planning, zoning, conservation, public health, cpc,...), Asbury Grove community, and Chebacco Woods community.