

**TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.
50 MAIN STREET
HOUSING TRUST COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021 AT 6 PM**

- 1. CHAIR BIKOFSKY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:02 PM.**
- 2. COMMITTEE ATTENDEES: PATRICK WHITE, JAY BIKOFSKY, MARK MILLS, TOM SHARPE AND NANCY SOCHA.
TOWN GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES: MICHAEL CANALES**
- 3. THE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2021 WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE BY PATRICK WHITE AND SECONDED BY MARK MILLS. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED 4-0 WITH NANCY SOCHA ABSTAINING AS SHE WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS OCTOBER MEETING.**
- 4. CHAIR BIKOFSKY REVIEWED THE APPROVED ARTICLE 20 FROM THE JUNE 12, 2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING. THIS ARTICLE PROPOSED APPROPRIATION FROM THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE OF THE SUM OF \$100,000.00 FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING PURPOSES TO BE USED BY THE TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE FOR FUNDING A HOUSING TRUST PROVIDED THAT SUCH APPROPRIATION SHALL BE CONTINGENT UPON THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL BY TOWN MEETING OF SUCH A TRUST.**
- 5. THE COMMITTEE WAS THEN REMINDED THAT SIMILAR TRUSTS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN LENOX, GREAT BARRINGTON AND WILLIAMSTOWN. CHAIR BIKOFSKY ADDED THAT THESE PROGRAMS WOULD SERVE AS EXAMPLES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STOCKBRIDGE PROGRAM.**
- 6. TRUST START UP CONSIDERATIONS: THE COMMITTEE THEN ENGAGED IN A DISCUSSION OF START UP CONSIDERATIONS. MICHAEL CANALES MENTIONED THE NEED TO DRAFT A DECLARATION OF THE TRUST AS WELL PREPARE HOUSING TRUST BYLAWS. HE ADDED THAT REVIEWING PROGRAMS DEVELOPED BY OTHER COMMUNITIES WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL. PATRICK WHITE SUGGESTED THE PROPOSED COMPOSITION OF A BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO INCLUDE MEMBERS WITH SPECIFIC EXPERTISE AS WELL AS A DEFINITION OF THE BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES. MARK MILLS ADDED THAT A DRAFT OF THESE ITEMS FIRST BE PREPARED FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW AND DISCUSSION PRIOR TO BEING SENT TO TOWN COUNSEL. PATRICK WHITE ADDED THE IMPORTANCE OF ONGOING MONITORING OF THE TRUST'S OPERATION. NANCY SOCHA SUGGESTED THAT LENOX REPRESENTATIVES BE INVITED TO MEET WITH THE STOCKBRIDGE COMMITTEE AT A FUTURE MEETING AND MICHAEL CANALES CONCLUDED BY PROPOSING THAT THE COMMITTEE REFERENCE AND WORK OFF OF THE LENOX DOCUMENT.**
- 7. WITH RESPECT TO FUNDING OF A STOCKBRIDGE HOUSING TRUST, MARK MILLS EXPRESSED THE NEED TO PERIODICALLY REVIEW FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND ANNUALLY PREPARE A BUDGET BASED UPON PROGRAM DEMANDS.**

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- 8. THE COMMITTEE AGREED UPON THE NEXT STEP FOR CHAIR BIKOFSKY AND
MICHAEL CANALES TO DEVELOP AN INITIAL DRAFT FOR REVIEW AT THE NEXT
COMMITTEE MEETING.**
- 9. THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT
6:40 PM.**