

Town of Lewisboro Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

6pm -- By Zoom

Present: Jane Lindau (chair); Linda Press Wolfe, Linda Rae, Priscilla Schaeffer, (members); Karen Conti, Elana Shneyer (proposed new members); Adam Ochs, Barbara Mangione, Jeff Vreeland (non-members). Member Andrea Danalewich and Town Board Liaison Dan Welch were not able to attend.

Jane Lindau called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

1. Committee Membership Update
 - a. Welcome to our two potential Committee members who were introduced last month, Karen Conti from Golden's Bridge and Elana Shneyer from Vista. They have both agreed to join the committee.
 - b. Introductions of members and other attendees.
2. Town Website Housing Page Update
 - a. Mapping is still confusing and needs to be changed. Jane will work on that.
 - b. Andrea is working on a new application for the Middle Income Units
3. Town Code
 - a. Jane and Dan will talk to the Town Attorney, Greg Folcetti, about changing the town code to require owners of Middle Income Units to inform the town when they desire to sell a unit.
 - b. Following step is a mailing to residents of Oakridge regarding sales of properties.
4. Jeff Vreeland, Housing Committee Chair before Linda Rae was chair, joined the meeting to talk about work that had been done 12 years or so to ago to try to promote affordable housing in Lewisboro. Two videos were shared ahead of the meeting: one on the need for affordable housing, and one on how to make it easier to build. We discussed the fact that the need for affordable housing has increased due to home prices climbing so high and so many houses being sold in the past year. Discussion ensued about whether school district enrollment has increased significantly, and whether the School Board might be interested in selling some of the property it owns in order to supplement the school budget. Linda Press Wolf cautioned that it is not the housing committee's role to speculate on issues under the School Board's purview, and the attendees concurred.
5. Jeff also talked about special purpose zones that exist in Lewisboro for things like Four Winds and gas stations, and about overlay zones. Properties on state roads with large tracts of land were also discussed. It was agreed that Jane would ask Dan Welsh to educate us on zoning for affordable housing at the next meeting.
6. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, May 25.
7. Executive Session was held.

Jane Lindau adjourned the meeting at 7:10pm.