Housing Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 21, 2022, at 10 am Durham Council Chambers

Members Present:

Heather Grant, Chair Tom Elliott Richard England Charlotte Hitchcock Al Howland, Council Rep. Mimi Kell, Madbury Properties

Nick Taylor, Advisor to Committee (Executive Director of the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater

Seacoast) Sally Tobias

Michael Behrendt, Town Planner

By Zoom -

Members Absent: Mimi Kell, Madbury Properties

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM by Heather Grant.

Agenda- Agenda had added topic of New Hampshire Bills regarding housing

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: February meeting minutes were approved.

Updates from Town Staff and Boards related to Housing:

Sally Tobias -Discussed update on Mill Pond Dam removal project

Michael Behrendt discussed other new projects coming before the Planning Board.

Discussion-

Tom Elliott brought up discussion of Beech Hill properties, he had observed a lot of tree cutting on what could be a good potential for housing in Durham. Michael Behrendt had not seen anything come into Durham for a new project related to this area.

Discussion on 74 Main Street project, and challenges related to Durham infrastructure. This expands into the topic of current risk of Durham infrastructure as it impacts future housing possibilities. Possible use of TIF funds would benefit the town and housing.

Nick Taylor brought the members up-to-date on NH housing bills.

We reviewed all Residential districts and came to agreement on suggested minimum lot size adjustments in the zoning dimensional table.

Michael will be bringing Conservation Subdivision requirements for review at the April meeting. It is agreed that the requirements can be confusing and may limit potential for more housing.

Adjournment -

The meeting concluded at 11:54 a.m.

Next Meeting- April 11 Review of Conservation Subdivision review, review of State influence on housing 79E and the Housing Appeals process, possible attendance by Richard Reine, Public Works Director, on infrastructure.