

Present

Bilal Ansari, Charles Bonenti, Kim Burnham, Van Ellet, Cheryl Shanks, Cathy Yamamoto (chair)

Business

1. The minutes of the April 12 meeting were approved.

2. Information we received.

A. Van met with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, which is seeking a grant to assess housing needs in the county. Perhaps we could coordinate information-gathering, assist or collaborate.

B. Cathy and Robin met with the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development. They could teach us about low-income tax credits and how they work. Housing Us could also explain, if they came up.

C. Carl Westerdahl's talk at the Historical Museum about The Spruces had an attendance of about 75 people, but doesn't seem to have been recorded. Van spoke briefly to the group about the warrant articles.

D. Higher Ground is applying for a grant to help with replacement housing.

E. Mass Housing Partnership/Rita Farrell are looking at environmental mitigation that might be necessary at 59 Water St., the old town garage site. MHP and the town are both paying for this environmental analysis.

F. The town has an RPF out for someone to do an environmental assessment for Photec, describing what work needs to be done in mitigation. That might be done in the next few months. After that, the town would issue another RPF for the actual mitigation work. And when that is done, an RPF could be issued for construction...of Affordable Housing!

G. Charles prepared an inventory of people who have been involved in the past and of stakeholders in affordable housing development, so we have our own yellow pages and goodwill guide.

H. If the AHC warrants go through, funds would be available to the committee as of July 1.

3. Information we should distribute.

A. We should have a facebook page. Bilal?

B. We should make handouts available for town meeting. Mark Gold said that it would be okay to have some in the cafeteria where people initially register.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 5, 7:00 pm