

ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Minutes of Regular Meeting, 7:30 P.M., 4 August 1980, 63 Windsor Avenue

ATTENDANCE: Marlin Murdock, Joseph Mercurio, James Sargent, Barbara Yates/Acton Housing Authority
Frank Averett, Nellie Campbell, Ruth Gill/Citizens Advisory Committee
Mary Reed/League of Women Voters

ABSENT: Ann Courtright, Paul DerAnanian/Acton Housing Authority

1. Minutes from Executive Session, 21 July 1980, were approved.
2. Minutes from Regular Meeting, 21 July 1980, were approved.
3. Executive Director's Report
 - A. DCA has approved purchase of partial maintenance list and Bulens "mulching" lawnmower.
 - B. Bids on industrial vacuum cleaner have been submitted to DCA. Advised to avoid wet/dry vacuum because of problems encountered with electrical system. If we should ever need one we will rent it.
 - C. Copier had to be advertised by Legal Notice for sealed bids. Ad will be placed in Boston Globe for two consecutive days sometime this week. Bids to be opened at 3:00 P.M. on August 15, 1980.
 - D. Letter sent to Byron Matthews requesting approval of seven piece couch previously denied.
 - E. Community Room furniture list partially approved for purchase - written authorization forthcoming
 - F. Bay State Trophy has been contacted regarding wall plaque with names of Advisory Committee. Price will be in vicinity of \$35 - 50. Betty will provide sample at next meeting.
 - G. Letter on bike riding at Windsor Green distributed to residents of Windsor Avenue area. Since that time there have been no further incidents.
 - H. Richard Dow of ADRIS expects to make presentation to Authority

on projects he is proposing for Windsor Green residents. Suggestion made that he be limited to 15 minutes.

- I. Notice posted inviting tenants to work on Open House in October. Several have signed up. Clarification by Authority that Open House is their responsibility, but they will welcome assistance from interested tenants and Advisory Committee members.
 - J. Visited Digital with Jim Falvey (Boy Scout) to request funds for flag and pole. Not acting further until response from Digital.
4. Old Business
- A. Update of landscape and watering. Priority is being given to watering of trees and shrubs at present since they represent a greater investment than the lawn. The landscape contractor will be reseeding the lawn later this month.
 - B. Ramp problem in handicapped units - no second means of egress. Contractor is working on building sample for one apartment. Suggestion by Marlin Murdock that unit be tested in wheelchair by someone who has arm strength and someone who does not, since runner for sliding doors will still be an obstacle.
 - C. Update on telephone installation charges - Joe Mercurio will write a letter to Bob Pyne protesting New England Telephone's charges to Windsor Green tenants for wiring and installation of jacks. In conversation with Al Ring, Joe was told that N.E. Tel used to activate wiring and jacks at no charge, but they petitioned the DPU to change this to the current practice. Joe also plans to contact GTE and ITT to inquire about their methods and charges.
 - D. Report on siding - Letter regarding Weyerhaeuser siding from DiMisco Associates to Jim Sargent reviewed by Authority. There are two aspects to the problem:
 1. The siding used was not originally installed according to specifications, and Weyerhaeuser has therefore refused to issue its guarantee on the materials. The siding has since been reinstalled in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. It should also be noted that this is a man-made product and is therefore subject to random and unpredictable expansion and contraction.
 2. The Weyerhaeuser hardboard siding is not the material originally specified - the Authority agreed to its substitution in June 1979 in order to reduce costs on the project.

Jim Sargent wrote a letter to DCA regarding the Weyerhaeuser guarantee. Bob Pyne responded by telephone that DCA will not expect a guarantee from Weyerhaeuser because of the original method of installation. Jim will write a letter describing the Authority's dissatisfaction with the entire siding problem which the Authority will review at its next meeting. DCA will file the letter until July 1981 when Congress Construction's guarantee expires. No complaint can be filed until after that time.

- E. Sidewalks to West Acton Center are not yet finished. The questions of what areas were included in the Town Meeting Warrant which provided for new sidewalks in West Acton was raised. Marlin Murdock noted that the old sidewalk on the east side of Windsor Avenue is unsafe and should be either removed or repaired. A crosswalk will be painted across Windsor Avenue where the new sidewalk ends by the end of August.
5. New Business
- A. Letter sent to Selectmen on Revitalization Report was reviewed by Authority. They agreed to review the new Revitalization Report when it is available.
- B. Joe Mercurio suggested that since he has more time now that Betty has taken over the check writing duties, he might review all the rents at Windsor Green, and Section 3 and Chapter 707. It was the opinion of other Authority members that this would not be appropriate and that it was not within the duties of the Treasurer. Joe Mercurio disagreed with the opinion of other Authority members present that the only job of the Treasurer is to pay the bills.
6. The next scheduled Board Meeting will be 15 September 1980 at 7:30 P.M. at 68 Windsor Avenue.
7. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Barbara S. Yates

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Assistant to Executive Director
Acton Housing Authority