

ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
68 WINDSOR AVENUE, ACTON MA 01720  
MINUTES  
March 16, 2016

Present: Bernice Baran, Ryan Bettez, Ken Sghia-Hughes, Nancy Kolb and Robert Whittlesey  
Also Present: Kelley Cronin  
Attending: Rita Farrell, Carsten Snow and Terra Friedrichs

Mr. Whittlesey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The Chair welcomed Rita Farrell and Carsten Snow from Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP) to the meeting. Ms. Farrell explained that MHP was willing to invest time in assisting the AHA in the process of elimination of potential properties for development. Ms. Farrell said that she and Ms. Snow will take the information they receive from the Board at the meeting and evaluate the parcels discussed. Ms. Farrell explained that they would provide technical assistance, as they had in the past when the AHA was looking at developing affordable units, to help bring the cost of consultants down.

The Board discussed several smaller Town owned parcels. The properties are located on Massachusetts Avenue, Cherry Ridge and Arlington Streets. The Board discussed the Walker property and asked Ms. Cronin to let the Town Manager know that the Board is interested in participating in the community conversation about the development of that parcel. The Board discussed State owned land on Hosmer Street, the large parcel on Arlington Street that was being discussed for the senior center and private property on Piper Road and Kelly's Corner. The Board also discussed reaching out to the Open Space committee to see if there were any properties that have the potential for housing and open space.

Ms. Baran brought up the feasibility of looking at creating assisted housing for seniors. She said that if the housing was going to be co-located with a new Council on Aging facility she thought it made sense but not as a stand-alone development. Ms. Cronin explained that by far the longest waiting list is for senior housing and that the current units are not well suited for people as they age in place. There are only a handful of barrier free units and every time a first floor unit becomes vacant an existing household transfers due to mobility issues and two units are turned over instead of one. The Board decided to focus on which population should be prioritized for housing at the next meeting.

Ms. Farrell said that MHP would look at the sites and provide information back to the Board for their April meeting.

Mr. Whittlesey made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Kolb and unanimously voted in the affirmative to:

***Adjourn the meeting***

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley A. Cronin  
Executive Director

Attachments to the March 16, 2016 meeting:  
List of development properties and parcel maps