

## **Carlisle Housing Authority**

Minutes of meeting February 28, 2012

Submitted by Carolyn Ing

**Present:** James Bohn, W. Randall Brown, Carolyn Ing, Stephen Pearlman, Elizabeth DeMille Barnett (Housing Coordinator).

- 1. Meeting called to order** at 7:33 pm.
- 2. Community input:** none.
- 3. Old business**

**NOAH Benfield Farms update:** The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) One-Stop application was submitted by NOAH on time and before the February 10 deadline. There were many revisions and additions from the previous April 2011 Benfield Farms One-Stop application. The accompanying letter written by Philip Giffee, Executive Director NOAH, stressed the extensive financial and community effort behind the Benfield Farms project and legislative support.

**Highland Building update:** Mr. Lehotsky spoke at the February 14, 2012 Board of Selectmen's meeting regarding the disposition of historic Highland School Building. In his remarks on behalf of the Housing Authority (HA), he shared the HA's concern that potential projects should not add to the tax burden of town residents. He also outlined numerous reasons why a Highland School Building affordable housing re-use option was in the Town's best interests.

Mr. Pearlman reported that the Community Preservation Committee voted not to fund the Highland project.

**Community Preservation application for Conant land, cranberry bog (map 28-8-10A) and town forest site evaluations:** Mr. Lehotsky met with the Conservation Committee to discuss the proposed Housing Authority Community Preservation Committee funding application. He noted that there might be another potential affordable housing Cranberry Bog site, an 18-acre parcel next to bog house currently being used to excavate sand. In response to the new information about the state agricultural restriction on the current Cranberry Bog site listed in the 2010 Housing Production Plan, Map 28-8-10A, Mrs. Barnett noted that in 2008, she had investigated the development potential of the Town-owned Greenough property and had found that development would not be feasible due to state conservation and recreation restriction issues.

**Banta-Davis Task Force:** The Task Force has received \$9,000 in funding from the Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust for initial engineering consulting site evaluation studies. The Task Force continues to progress on its accelerated schedule. Three potential engineering consulting service firms have been identified and invited to send proposals. The Banta Davis Task Force engineering consulting services report delivery is scheduled for the end of April.

The Task Force has sent notification letters on its mission to all property abutters within 500 feet of the Banta Davis property. In response to this notification, several Banta Davis abutters have requested to be added to a future Banta Davis Interest list for the proposed project.

#### 4. **New business**

**Timothy Wheeler House:** Mrs. Barnett reported that she had been invited by Mrs. Marilyn Harte, a Carlisle resident, who is a Timothy Wheeler House board member, to tour the non-profit Timothy Wheeler House in Concord, Massachusetts. Mrs. Harte had contacted Mrs. Barnett wanting to offer an option for Carlisle seniors, particularly those with moderate or low incomes, looking to downsize. Mrs. Barnett said that the Timothy Wheeler House, an early 19<sup>th</sup> century historic structure with antique furnishings, has seven individual rooms for seniors (65+) with private baths. It also provides three meals a day and utilities for a flat monthly fee.

**5. Minutes approved:** On a motion made by Mr. Bohn and seconded by Mr. Brown, the board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of the February 9 meeting with minor amendments.

6. Next meeting: Thursday, March 8, 2012.

**7. Meeting adjourned:** On a motion made by Pearlman and seconded by Brown, it was voted 4-0 to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.