

MADISON AD HOC AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 18, 2021

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Affordable Housing Plan Advisory Committee was conducted Friday June 18, 2021, at 8:30 a.m., remotely, using Zoom Videoconferencing. The public was invited to participate remotely by joining the meeting through a Zoom webinar link. Log-in details were posted to the Town of Madison website (<https://www.madisonct.org/>), prior to the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairwoman Sarah Mervine, Vice Chairwoman Erin Duques, Andrea Aron, Chad Greenlee, Matthew Keller, Peter Roos

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rosalyn Fahey

TOWN STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: David Anderson, Heather Noblin, Cristal Depietro

Meeting called to order at 8:35A.M.

Discussion of SCRCOG meeting on June 8th. A few members of this committee attended the meeting. The meeting was recorded. Takeaways: The meeting provided general information; there are still a lot of unknowns. On July 1, the Consultant will begin. We should get a draft survey within 1-2 weeks. The Consultant will be meeting with each town. They will provide a one-page handout that we can disseminate to the public. Exact timeline of events is unknown.

Sarah requested the opportunity to review and revise the survey to make it fit our town and needs. She said we don't know the format of the survey. It will be important to provide multiple options for completing survey, both by hard copy and electronically.

Peter emphasized the importance of obtaining an adequate number of responses so that the survey is relevant. Sarah thinks that it will be mostly up to our committee to accomplish this. Dave commented that other groups have had luck obtaining responses by attending the Madison Farmer's Market.

Discussion of grant opportunities. There are small grants available to towns to hire a consultant to assist their affordable housing plans, which Madison may be eligible for. Sarah will speak with First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons to find out if there is town staff support available to assist with completing the grant application. Sarah will look at the grant eligibility requirements. If eligible, Erin will work with Sarah on completing application.

Discussion regarding public outreach efforts. The committee discussed next steps while we wait for the survey draft. Matt suggested that there be two tracks: 1) talking to stakeholders for both information gathering and sharing purposes, and 2) development a plan to get the survey out.

The committee identified various groups/individuals to contact and who would be responsible for reaching out to them. The purpose of these meetings is to introduce our committee and its objectives, to inform them about the survey and to determine their willingness to help disseminate the survey.

The following is a list of community individuals and groups to be contacted and the committee member assigned to each:

- The Source/ Jesse Williams: Sarah will contact regarding an article and whether they will print or disseminate the survey in the paper.
- Madison Interfaith Residential Community: Sarah
- Roberts: Chad
- Stop and Shop: Andrea
- Spotlight Cleaners: Sarah
- Scranton Library: Peter
- Madison Community Services and Senior Center: Heather
- Madison Youth and Family Services: Andrea and Crystal
- Jaycees: Matt
- Lions: Matt
- Rotary: Erin
- Newcomers Club: Erin
- Madison Diversity and Inclusion Council: Andrea
- EDC and Chamber of Commerce: Dave and Erin
- Raise the Roof: Sarah
- Democratic Town Committee Chair, Joan Walker: Andrea
- Republican Town Committee Chair, Amy Stefanowksi: Erin

Update on meeting with Hope Partnership: Peter provided an update on his meeting with Tony Lyons and Stephen Dowler. The offered to provide a tour of The Lofts at Spencer's Corner, an affordable housing community recently developed in Essex CT. Peter suggested that we compile a list of available development areas.

Sarah suggested that we put together talking points for sharing information about affordable housing. Peter suggested that we watch the video of Jim Crawford speaking to the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, which is available on the Hope Partnership website, <https://www.hope-ct.org/>

American Rescue Plan: Erin suggested we look for opportunities for funding support for this project through the American Rescue Plan. David further suggested that we use the funds to support programs that our plan recommends once finished.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Duques