Town of Sherman Housing Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 26, 2018  5:00 PM

Members Present: B. Hoag, B. Ackerman, F. Copsidas, K. Harrison, T. Hollander, D. Tuck

Members Absent: H. Bray, C. Faure

Also Present: Don Lowe—Sherman First Selectman; Lesley Higgins-Biddle—Senior Program Officer for Connecticut Statewide Program of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Call to Order: B. Hoag called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of September and October minutes was requested and received via email prior to the meeting date.

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Lesley Higgins-Biddle, Senior Program Officer, Connecticut Statewide Program, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) attended to discuss affordable housing in CT.

Ms. Higgins-Biddle covered many aspects of the topic, including financing options, what other small towns are doing, what exactly constitutes affordable housing, use of town land, timing, resources available, and other related items of interest.

Ms. Higgins-Biddle commended the Housing Commission on the high response rate to Sherman’s housing survey.

Some highlights were:
- affordable housing serves households with incomes below 80% of area median income.
- “affordable housing” is generally understood as housing that costs a household not more than 30% of its income.
- affordable housing includes rental or homeownership situations.
- maintaining the character or appearance of a town is a common concern with affordable housing and this was reflected in Sherman’s survey as well
- there is state money available for such projects
- funding for such projects generally takes approximately two years
- the state is no longer funding age restricted housing

Bruce Hoag and the entire commission thanked Lesley Higgins-Biddle for bringing clarity to the commission on the affordable housing subject.

**Review any other items from Commission members:**
Bruce Hoag made a motion to approve proposed 2019 meeting dates.
Barbara Ackerman seconded the motion.
The motion passed with unanimous agreement.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:**
B. Hoag moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM.
K. Harrison seconded the motion.
Meeting was unanimously adjourned.
   The next meeting will be January 21, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Michele MacKinnon
27 November 2018