

Final Minutes SAHC (Senior and Affordable Housing Committee), Jan. 25, 2018, 7:15 p.m.

Location: Town Hall

Attending: David Fisk, Scott Hesser, Mark McMahon, Heinz Trebitz,
By Skype: Dale Gephart, Manohar Grewal

Meeting Agenda:

1. *Review and adopt minutes.*
2. *Update from Dale about Cathedral Square.*
3. *Report from Heinz on conversation with John Ryan, Consultant hired for study on Senior & affordable Housing in Upper Valley.*
4. *Finalize details and agenda for the Community Forum scheduled for February 15, 2018.*
5. *Next month's meeting date.*

Adjourn.

Discussions:

1. The **draft meeting minutes** of 1/10/18, with one addition, were approved unanimously.
2. *Dale* reported on his participation in a **teleconference on senior living facilities** in the Burlington area (Cathedral Square/SASH – *Support And Services at Home*), and also on a new shared housing facility in Maine (Volunteers of America Northern New England). Compare: <https://www.voanne.org/country-villa> ; <https://cathedralsquare.org/property/ruggles-house-shared-housing/> . None of the organizations behind these facilities are active in the Upper Valley. They appear more oriented towards providing managed (including health services) living for aging people than the senior and affordable housing projects pursued by SAHC during the last 10 years. *Dale* suggested having someone of TEN address these housing concepts at the upcoming Community Forum.
3. *Heinz* reported on a recent **phone conversation with John Ryan**, a Montpelier consultant hired by Twin Pine Housing Trust to survey senior and affordable housing needs in the Thetford (and Upper Valley ?) area. *Heinz* offered some historical background and directed *John Ryan* to the annual Thetford Town Reports for further information. He also mentioned the upcoming Town Forum.
4. **Community Forum** details were discussed at length. The invitation letter has been mailed. Other invitation venues: List Serve, Town Website, Town Newsletter, Valley News (*Heinz* to handle). Follow-up and informal invitations by individual phone calls: realtors, local builders, neighbor town representatives, Senior Solutions. *Heinz* to call Sen. Leahy's office to tell of forthcoming invitation. Speakers to include: *Tim Briglin, Jim Masland, Andrew Winter, Mark McMahon, Representatives from Select Board (Doug Stone to be contacted – by Heinz) and TEN (Dale to arrange)*. Also: *Bob Haynes*, Dir. of Green Mountain Economic Development Corp. (GMEDC – *Scott* to contact). Time limit: 5 min. Allow ample time for questions, comments.
Forum Issues: **Past Efforts. Needs** - Senior vs. affordable housing; availability of un-encumbered Land; support from Select Board. **Financing** – Money Pools are available, however funding sources are not geared towards small projects pursued in Thetford. **Raise individual and business interest.**

Next regular SAHC meeting: Wednesday 2/07/2018, 7:15p.m. , Town Hall. **Final Forum preparations**
Confirm or agree on date by e-mail.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Heinz Trebitz, 2/01/18; Approved 2/08/2018
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