

AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD MEETING
LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM

May 20, 2010

The following are the minutes of the Affordable Housing Board Meeting, which was held on May 20, 2010, in the Lawrence Township Municipal Building - Manager's Conference Room.

Statement of Proper Notice.

Adequate notice of the regular meeting of the Lawrence Township Affordable Housing Board has been provided by filing an annual meeting schedule with the Municipal Clerk, and by filing the agenda with the Municipal Clerk, posting prominently in the Municipal Building, and by mailing to the Trenton Times, the Trentonian and the Lawrence Ledger.

Roll Call.

The roll was called as followed at 7:33 p.m.:

Present: Theresa Birch, Skip Conover, Rachel Cotrino, Margaret Currie, Chairperson Kevin Van Hise.

Absent: Vice-Chairperson Barbara Lavine, Christopher Pangaldi.

Also Present: Ms. Mainaki, a resident and pending applicant with the Township's affordable housing program.

There were no revisions to the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes.

The April minutes were not available for approval. The Board will review at its June Meeting.

Public Comment.

Chairperson Van Hise advised that the Township's Affordable Housing Coordinator, Andrew Link, PP/CLA, recently sent out the re-certification packages to households on the Township's referral list. With those packages, Mr. Link provided information about the Board, the time and place of the Board's monthly meeting, and advised that the Board welcomed comments and was available to provide assistance to applicants seeking affordable housing units.

Ms. Mainaki appeared before the Board and indicated that she was a local resident on the Township's referral list and recently received a recertification package with the Board's information. She is seeking to purchase an affordable housing unit and had questions regarding the income

qualification requirements, unit and household sizes, availability questions and the impact potential status changes would have on the application and/or ownership of a home. As the questions were personal and specific to Ms. Mainaki's application, the Board referred her to Housing Administrator Link to be individually addressed.

Status of Changes At State Level.

Chairman Van Hise advised that the New Jersey State Senate reconvened earlier today and will be referring proposed bill S-1, revising the State's affordable housing system, back to the Senate Economic Growth Committee for further consideration and amendments. The bill's sponsor, Senator Lesniak, is looking to fast track the legislation and seeks to have it considered by the Committee at its June 3 meeting, and be before the full Senate for a vote shortly thereafter. Governor Christie has also proposed a plan as well, and it is expected that the Legislature and Governor will be working together to effectuate a comprehensive bill for passage by the end of next month.

Affordable Housing Resources.

The Board expressed its interest in partnering with community organizations to provide assistance and resources to affordable housing applicants and residents. However, the Board is mindful that, based upon its prior experiences in looking to do such programs, there are financial costs associated with them. Therefore, the Board will continue to review opportunities for such activities and any resources that might be available.

Other Business.

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on June 17, 2010.

J. Andrew Link
Principal Planner