

JOINT HOUSING SUB COMMITTEE MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2015

Present: Commissioner Jesse Forcier
 Commissioner Debbie DeWitt Ahern
 Selectman Joe DiRocco
 Selectwoman Cathy Richardson

The Joint Sub Committee of the Housing Authority and the Board of Selectmen met on June 15, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the development of senior housing at 144 Greenmont Avenue.

Commissioner Forcier started the meeting by stating that this is just an update on what happened at Town Meeting. He also introduced Selectwoman Cathy Richardson who is now on the Joint Housing Sub-Committee. Ms. Richardson has taken the place of Selectwoman Tami Dristillaris. Commissioner Forcier gave accolades to Town Manager Duggan on his presentation at Town Meeting on behalf of the Housing Authority's \$3,000,000 request for funding.

Commissioner Forcier stated that the Housing Authority is in the process of putting an RFP together to hire a Development Consultant to prepare for the next funding round of DHCD. The Town Manager explained that the Housing Authority will be driving this project and the Town will act as a partner. The Town Manager explained that the Selection Committee will be Town Manager Duggan, Assistant Town Manager Edwards, and the Executive Director. Commissioner Forcier stated that he feels comfortable with the Selection Committee. Commissioner DeWitt Ahern stated that she was also comfortable with the Committee and that the recommendation would be brought to the Board of Commissioners and they would have the final vote.

Selectman DiRocco stated that at this point there is not much more that the Town can do other than support this project. The work of the Selectmen and the Town Manager to access funding has been successfully completed. Commissioner Forcier stated that he anticipates that the future joint housing sub-committee meetings would be informational meetings. There will be presentations and information to the entire Board of Selectmen. Commissioner DeWitt Ahern stated that she anticipates that the Consultants will look for additional funding, possibly Veterans Housing. She suggested that we meet with Rep. Garry, Sen. L'Italien, and Congresswoman Tsongas. Commissioner Forcier asked Selectwoman Richardson if she was up to speed on the numbers on the project. Commissioner Forcier stated that DHCD would like to see an additional number of units at the site, possibly 40 units.

Selectman DiRocco stated that we will not have the control of the project that we initially thought but we will be able to house an additional number of Dracut residents.

Meeting adjourned: 5:15 p.m.

Approved by Dracut Housing Authority Board of Commissioners on July 22, 2015