TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES February 21, 2017

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

<u>Members Present:</u> John Ward, Greg Snedeker, Randy Crochier <u>Members Absent</u>: None <u>Others Present</u>: Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant; Janet Masucci; Anna Gyorgy

<u>Minutes</u>: Greg made a motion, seconded by John, to approve the minutes of 2/6/17. The vote was 2-0 in the affirmative, with Randy abstaining from the vote.

<u>CodeRED Emergency Notification System:</u> Ray reported that town officials have received training on the new CodeRED system, and that the enrollment link is now active on the Town's website. Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for telephone, email, and text message notices of emergencies and other situations of importance to people in Gill. To help spread the word, a press release is planned, and there will be an informational flyer in the next issue of the Gill Newsletter.

Ken's Roadside Diner: Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve the 2017 food concession trailer license for Ken's Roadside Diner. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

<u>Historic Commission Appointment:</u> Acting on a request from the Gill Historic Commission, Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to appoint Bob Perry as an Alternate Member of the Historic Commission through 6/30/2019. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

<u>CDBG Committee Rep:</u> A Gill representative is needed to serve on the 3-member Citizen Advisory Committee that provides independent oversight of the Tri-Town Community Development Block Grant awarded in 2016 to Bernardston, Gill, and Rowe. It was noted that there are very few names left on the Gill waiting list for the grant's housing rehab funds, and that interested homeowners should contact the Housing Authority. It was suggested that previous housing rehab grant recipients might be good candidates to serve on the committee.

<u>Highway Dept. Memo re 2009 Sterling Truck:</u> The Selectboard reviewed a memo received earlier today from Highway Superintendent Mick LaClaire regarding the condition of the 2009 Sterling truck, primarily about the emissions and exhaust. The memo notes that despite repair efforts to date, the truck is still prone to having exhaust fumes enter the truck cab, which makes the driver ill. The Selectboard noted that the memo states the truck is currently at the repair shop, Porters Diesel, and until it is returned to the Town, there is little to be done. It seems like there are two problems going on -a re-gen problem with the emissions system, and an exhaust issue - and that the repair shop should be diagnosing and fixing the problems independent of one another. Randy noted, as a member of the Board of Health, that while the memo was carbon-copied to the Board of Health, the issue is not a matter of public health, and therefore is not a matter for that Board.

<u>Riverside Village Historic District:</u> Ray made a final reminder of the informational meeting tonight at 7 PM to discuss the proposed nomination of the Riverside Village Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

Sewer I&I Study: Nothing to report.

Gill Elementary Well: No progress last week.

Mariamante Property/Community Solar: Nothing to report.

<u>Annual Reports:</u> Ray has the updated appointment information from the Town Clerk for the FY 11, 12, and 13 reports, and will incorporate that into the reports next week. Greg noted that his work on the FY14 report will likely

be a summer project, when he will have more time available. It was suggested that Ann Banash, a longtime Selectboard and Finance Committee member be considered to receive the dedication for the FY14 report. It was also suggested that Paul Seamans, a longtime Gill resident and former Gill Elementary teacher and principal, be considered for a dedication.

<u>Oak Street Easement:</u> Ray presented an updated sketch showing the proposed easement from the Town to Bob Callery for his property at 2 Oak Street. The sketch is being reviewed by Callery, Highway Superintendent Mick LaClaire, and Riverside Water District President Jeff Suprenant. Once all three have weighed in with any comments or suggestions, it will be presented to the Selectboard for their approval. Once approved, Callery's surveyor will create a survey of the easement, and Town Counsel will draft the easement document for Town Meeting's approval.

Anna Gyorgy left the meeting at 5:55 PM.

Warrant: The Selectboard reviewed and signed the FY 2017 warrant #17.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

Signed copy on file. Approved 03/06/2017

Randy Crochier, Selectboard Clerk



FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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February 10, 2017

John Ward, Chair Board of Selectmen Town of Gill Gill Town Hall 325 Main Road Gill, MA 01354-9758

Subject: Citizens Advisory Committee FY16 Bernardston Tri Town

Dear John Ward, Chair:

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is administering the FY16 Bernardston Tri Town Community Block Grant Program on behalf of the towns of Bernardston, Gill and Rowe.

A copy of the enclosed Citizen Participation Plan was submitted with the original grant application, and according to that plan a three member Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) should be established in order to provide oversight of the program performance. The plan asks that one member be a resident from each of the three participating towns; it is also encouraged that at least one of CAC members be low/moderate income. The appointed members will receive quarterly progress reports and be invited to attend any future public hearings and/or informational meetings that update residents about the program during the grant cycle.

We ask that each town assist in identifying this committee member for their respective town. Please feel free to copy the enclosed packet to disburse to interested representatives. We are asking that this appointment to happen prior to the end of the next quarter, which is March 31, 2017. Please forward contact information for the proposed committee member to my attention, and if you have any questions please contact me at (413) 863-9781 ext. 156 or via email at spleasant@fcrhra.org

Thank you.

Sincerely?

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Sharon L. Pleasant CD Program Manager

Enclosure

Rental Assistance • Housing Development • Housing Management • Community Development Municipal Assistance • Rehab Financing • Homeownership • Public Infrastructure

Equal Housing Opportunity

Citizen Participation Plan

The towns of Bernardston (lead), Gill and Rowe submit this application at the request of their low and moderate-income residents. The need for a regional fuel assistance safety net and an affordable housing rehabilitation program for all 3 towns was identified by the townspeople in two ways:

(1) through the lengthy public process of developing their Community Development Strategies; and,

(2) requests made by individual low and moderate income residents of the towns to the Boards of Selectmen to apply for Community Development Block Grant funding. These requests have come in the form of letters, telephone calls to the Boards, and attendance at public hearings and informational meetings. The Boards of Selectmen held 3 formal public hearings and 3 informational meetings to provide for and encourage citizen participation in the selection and development of activities to be requested in the Community Development Block Grant application/Community Development Fund (See Public Hearing Section).

Technical assistance will be provided to low and moderate income groups and/or groups representing low and moderate-income persons throughout the grant term. Technical Assistance will be accomplished by program staff working individually with low and moderate income persons and/or providing technical assistance by attending group meetings.

The Boards of Selectmen will commission a 3-member Citizens Advisory Committee with representatives from various locations of the 3-town region (1 member from each of the 3 participating towns); at least 1 member of the Committee will be low/moderate income. This committee will provide independent oversight of the program performance during the grant term. Their mission will be to ensure that all proposed activities would accomplish the goals stated in the towns' Community Development Strategies. The Citizens Advisory Committee will receive quarterly progress reports from the towns' administering agency, the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority. For additional citizen participation opportunities, see ongoing beneficiary involvement in the housing rehab project packet

If funded, a public hearing will be held during the grant cycle to obtain citizen comments on the outcome and effectiveness of the programs, and to elicit suggestions on how they could be improved upon in the future. In addition, if the community decides to amend its grant agreement in order to substantially alter the design of a funded activity, delete an activity or add a new one, it will hold a public hearing before petitioning DHCD for a contract amendment. Grievances and complaints will hopefully be resolved immediately at the lowest level -that is, directly between aggrieved clients and administrators of an activity component. Should that in some instances not prove satisfactory the following grievance procedure will be initiated:

Grievance between HRA and Program Participants: In the event that a program participant (homeowner, tenant or owner) feels that s/he has not been treated fairly by the program, or that the HRA did not meet its obligations to the participant as specified in the program guidelines: (1) The program participant shall state the grievance in writing to the Director of Community Development ... [who] shall meet with the program participant within 10 business days of the receipt of the written notice. The program participant will be given a written response from the Director of Community Development within 5 business days of the meeting. (2) If the grievance is not resolved, the program participant may request in writing a meeting with the Executive Director...[who] shall meet with the program participant and the Director of Community Development within 10 business days of receipt of the written notice. The program participant will be given a written response from the Executive Director within 5 business days of the meeting. At this meeting both the program participant(s) and HRA shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel, to present evidence and to cross-examine witnesses presented by others. Retaining legal counsel for him/herself shall be the responsibility of the program participant.

(3) The decision of the Executive Director shall be the final administrative review by HRA.

(4) If the program participants are not satisfied with the HRA Executive Director's decision, he/she may bring the grievance to the lead town's Board of Selectmen for a final determination. There will be no further administrative review.

Accommodations will be made for handicapped and non-English speaking clients. All group/client meetings will be held in fully handicapped accessible buildings. Additionally, interpreters will be available as necessary to accommodate hearing impaired and non-English speaking clients.

