

STAFF REPORT

Housing Advisory Board Appointments

October 26, 2021 Town Council Meeting



The Town Council adopted an Affordable Housing Plan (AHP) on February 1, 2021. The AHP outlines the Town's vision, goals, programs, policies and recommendations to be carried out over the next several years. One of the highest priority near-term recommendations identified in the AHP is the establishment of a Housing Advisory Board (HAB). As a result, Town Council adopted an Ordinance on September 14, 2021 to establish the HAB. The HAB will have the following powers and duties under the provision of the Ordinance:

1. Recommend to the Mayor and Town Council, policies and funding recommendations related to affordable housing;
2. Advise the Mayor, Town Council, and Planning Board on housing advocacy efforts related to affordable housing; and
3. Assist in the creation of the housing annual report.

The following nine (9) members are recommended for appointment along with their initial membership terms to the HAB.

1. Appointee – Audra Killingsworth, Town Council Member, non-voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2022
2. Appointee – Tina Sherman, Planning Board Member, non-voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2022
3. Appointee – Philip J. Welch Jr., Chair, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2024
4. Appointee – Rhett Fussell, Vice-Chair, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2024
5. Appointee – Valeria Cesanelli, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2024
6. Appointee – Paul Kane, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2023
7. Appointee – Seth Friedman, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2023
8. Appointee – Jacob Rogers, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2023
9. Appointee – Martha L. Rodgers, voting member, membership service will begin on October 26, 2021 and end on October 26, 2024

Since the adoption of the Ordinance on September 14, 2021, staff has solicited the public and stakeholders through various platforms including the Town's website, social media, publicinput.com, regional meetings, community meetings and neighborhood meetings. Although interest forms will continue to be collected on a rolling basis, the deadline of October 6, 2021 was established to be considered for the initial establishment of the HAB. As a result, a total of forty-seven (47) interest forms were received by the deadline. The final step in the formation of the HAB is for the Mayor to recommend and Town Council to appoint the nine (9) members.

Staff Recommendation:

Planning staff recommends the appointment of nine (9) members to establish the HAB which is consistent with the Town Council adopted AHP and Ordinance.