

**Town of La Pointe
Affordable Housing Advisory Committee
Tuesday August 8, 2023
10:00 am at Emergency Services Training Room /Zoom
Minutes**

Members present: Katie Sanders (Chair), Jane Vogt, Cedar Schimke, Charlie Bertel, Gwen Smith Patterson, Jim Peters, Rachel Rosen, Mark Pass, Marie Iannazzo, Robert Kramer
Members absent: Ken Myhre
Members on leave of absence: Lauren Schuppe
Staff present: Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator
Public present: Janet Bewley
Dan Noyes, Blumentals Architecture

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Katie Sanders at 10:02 am.

2. Public Comment – none

3. Guest presenters

A. Janet Bewley

Senator Bewley gave an overview of her background, which includes higher education, WHEDA and an elected official. She offered to be an ally, translator and background helper for the committee in navigating programs associated with affordable housing.

B. Dan Noyes

Dan gave an overview of his background and Blumentals Architecture. He went over the team players needed for a development, cost examples of rural housing developments this company has done, and ideas/examples of equitable housing projects. Dan offered to be available via e-mail for questions. General discussion on developer recruitment obstacles.

4. Minutes of the following meetings to be considered for approval:

A. July 18, 2023

Motion by Mark to approve the minutes, seconded by Cedar, all ayes.
Motion Carried.

5. Reports & Updates

A. RFQ Response Update

Dan Noyes confirmed that Blumenthals will submit a response to the RFQ. Cinnaire told Michael they will not be responding, as they are looking at 50+ unit developments. Michael also stated he received questions from one other developer (JSD Professional Services of Verona).

B. Developer scoring

Katie e-mailed/handed out the final draft of the evaluation sheet. Cedar ~~Jim~~ asked to add a question regarding environmental. Katie will revise and e-mail.

C. Housing Database update

Cedar did not have an update but is expecting to start working on this soon.

D. Finalize plans for 8/15 community information session

- Katie went over slide presentation she e-mailed to the committee prior to the meeting. Discussion topics included: emphasize this may or may not happen, income clarification, removing slide on median home/land sale prices, add other options such as creating solutions to help existing homeowners refurbish/maintain their homes. Jane asked Jim to send examples from Mackinac Island affordable housing to Katie. Any other comments/edits should be e-mailed to Katie.
- Katie will write a script including an introduction and overview of the slides.
- Presentation format discussed; consensus to present each topic (stats, comp plan survey results and solutions) with time for questions after each topic.
- Katie will invite the Town Board personally at their meeting tonight.

6. Recommendations to Town Board - none

7. Public Comment

Jim asked why this committee is looking for members. Michael responded that terms expire 8/31 and it is customary to post as there may be members who do not want to serve another term. He also noted there is not a limit of the number of members that can be on this committee.

Charlie offered to participate in a WHEDA Chequamegon Area Community Land Trust pilot project which is estimated to run next Sept – June (4-6 hrs. per month).

Michael reported that Ashland County has \$750,000 in ARPA money that needs to be used by the end of 2024, talk is that housing would be a good use for this money. He encouraged the committee to see how we could utilize these funds.

8. Set Next Meeting Agenda and Date

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 9/12/2023, 10 am at Town Hall/Zoom.
Agenda: elect new officers, developer RFQ discussion/next steps, community information review

9. Adjourn

Motion by Mark to adjourn, seconded by Jane, all ayes. Motion Carried.

Minutes taken from recording and submitted by Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant
Minutes approved as corrected 9/12/23. D. Goetsch, Clerical Assistant