Town of Londonderry, Vermont

Londonderry Housing Commission Special Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2025 – 3:00 PM Virtual via Google Meet

In attendance: Patty Eisenhaur, Martha Dale, Nancy Jensen, Bill Sinsigalli, Maryann Morris

- 1. Call Meeting to Order Google Drive of Materials
- 2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda [1 VSA 312(d)(3)(A)]
- 3. Old Business
 - a. Town Meeting Warning

Discussion around our strategy on the ask on the town meeting. Patty reminded everyone that there are many things that this fund can be used for, matching grants, infrastructure, etc. things that are meant to revitalize the town.

A proposal to ask for \$20K rather than a percentage was made. The group discussed how the percentage will adjust with more people visiting, so it could increase over the \$20k. Clarification about the tax burden and the increased tax burden this year and this amount, as compared to the budget, shows that this allocation is small.

PE makes a motion and MM seconds that we advocate that the select board put on the town meeting warning that 50% of the annual Local Options Tax be allocated to the Community Development Fund yearly. All are in favor and the motion passes.

The Select Board has asked for sample projects and budgets from the LHC. The group discussed various housing incentive programs that could be funded by the community revitalization development fund. Martha suggested using the fund for programs like the Windham Windsor Housing Trust, renovation programs, and scoping studies that would encourage developers to consider Londonderry. Bill spoke about programs that help people acquire housing, renovate existing units, or convert existing housing into rental units. They also discussed the possibility of using the fund for ADU programs, which are seen as a relatively accessible and understandable way to increase housing options. Patty will put together a sheet on some of our proposed programs.

Maryann and Nancy will attend the select board meeting on Monday. The group decided to include a graphic showing how other towns allocate their local option tax and examples of how the fund could support housing and other community development projects. Patty will create some materials about how the money can be used in the community, not just for housing.

4. Adjourn 3:49 pm