

TOWN OF BLUFFTON AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE
Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry "Emmett" McCracken Jr. Town
Council Chambers
Thursday, January 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Present: Chair, Councilman Fred Hamilton; Councilman Dan Wood; Meg James;
Denolis Polite; LeDeen Hangen

Absent: Jon Nickel, Gwen Chambers

Staff: Brad Mole, Community and Business Development Coordinator; Victoria
Smalls, Growth Management Coordinator; Charlotte Moore, Principal
Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER

Hamilton called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Committee member James made a motion to adopt the January 9, 2020,
Affordable Housing Committee Agenda. Committee member Hangen seconded
the motion and the motion passed.

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – December 5, 2019

Councilman Wood made a motion to approve the December 5, 2019, Affordable
Housing Committee meeting minutes. Committee member James seconded the
motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nate Pringle, Bluffton Resident, A Call to Action Board Member stated that the
Call to Action Board has reached out an informed Brad Mole that they are willing
and able to help as much as possible with finding those in need of Affordable
Housing assistance.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Neighborhood Assistance Program Budget Update

The total available budget for this FY20 Town Council funded program is

\$127,626.00. Town Staff is continuing to process applications for assistance. As of January 9, 2020, \$52,374.00 (includes households in progress) has been spent to assist Town of Bluffton residents through the Neighborhood Assistance Program. These include ceiling, door, roof, and floor repairs.

Two applications have been sent to Lowcountry Council of Governments for income to be verified.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

IX. DISCUSSION

Committee member Hangen brought up the idea about having smoke detectors placed in homes of those do not have one or for those who seek assistance from AHC. After discussion, it was stated that this assistance should be left up to the local fire department.

Chairman Councilman Hamilton discussed with the Committee that the SOLOCO subset Committee needs two representatives on the Committee; Heather Colin, Town Staff, is one, and someone from the Affordable Housing Committee is needed. Councilman Dan Wood said he would take on that position.

Committee member James asked if a short presentation would be available by Staff on Affordable Housing Committee projects in the Region at the next meeting.

Chairman Hamilton discussed affordable housing incentives in general, mentioning that matters such as density and length of covenants needed further discussion. Additionally, problems with loans and the need for additional "tools" in the affordable housing toolbox were mentioned.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The January 9, 2020 Affordable Housing Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.