

TOWN OF BLUFFTON AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE
Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry "Emmett" McCracken Jr. Town
Council Chambers
Thursday, March 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Present: Chair, Councilman Fred Hamilton; Councilman Dan Wood; Meg James
(arrived at 10: 14a.m); Denolis Polite; Gwen Chambers

Absent: Jon Nickel, LeDeen Hangen

Staff: Kevin Icard, Planning & Community Development Manager; Victoria
Smalls, Growth Management Coordinator; Charlotte Moore, Principal
Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER

Hamilton called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Committee member Polite made a motion to adopt the March 5, 2020, Affordable Housing Committee Agenda. Councilman Dan Wood seconded the motion and the motion passed.

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – January 9, 2020

Committee Member Polite made a motion to approve the January 9, 2020, Affordable Housing Committee meeting minutes. Councilman Wood seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Hamilton recognized Carol Crutchfield, Planning Coordinator for the Beaufort County School Board. She has been tasked to attend AHC related meetings in order to learn about Affordable Housing for teachers.

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 \$123,356.00 Town Staff is continuing to process applications for assistance.

As of March 5, 2020, \$56,384.00 (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.

2. Regional Affordable Housing Update – Staff Icard
 - a. Hilton Head is looking to include incentives into their program (commercial conversions, density bonus, micro-efficiency units.
 - b. Marilyn Harris (Low County Affordable Housing Coalition)—speaker will discuss homelessness among children. Wood asked if this group was accomplishing anything—Icard did not know.
 - c. Angela Childers (Beaufort Housing Authority): Eight 1-BR units almost complete. Also mentioned HUD-financed issues relating to contracts that limit ability to do more projects; she also mentioned a program to allow assistance to help home purchase instead of rental assistance. Ms. Childers can present to the Council at a future meet.
 - d. Councilman Wood said Bennett may also be a good source; Also recommended that staff provided an update on Crown on 170. Wants to be able to get the word out about this development.
 - e. Committee member Polite asked for the location of Coalition meeting. Icard asked Smalls to send the Committee information regarding the meeting.
3. Request for Proposal 2020-24 Update

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

IX. DISCUSSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

The March 5, 2020 Affordable Housing Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.