

Boxborough Housing Board
Thursday, May 13, 2021
Thru Zoom, Boxborough, MA 01719

Housing Board Members Present: Al Murphy, Chair, Channing Wagg, Ron Vogel, and Diane Friedman

Housing Board Member Absent: Delores Fromer

Invited Attendee: Rose Gage, Community Services Co-Ordinator

I Information Items

- A. Two years ago a Public Safety Facility was first reviewed for the Stow Road Property the Housing Board owns. The Boxborough Building Committee has yet to make the Housing Board an offer for the property. Channing Wagg asked if payment could be given over a 10-year installment period. The suitability of the property should be resolved soon and within a couple of years the groundbreaking should happen stated Al Murphy.

I. Minutes

- A. Minutes from the April 8, 2021, meeting. Al Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted and Channing Wagg seconded. All members voted to approve.

II. Old Business

A. BRAP Rental Assistance Program:

1. Rose Gage came to the meeting and started by saying talking to people in the program is especially important. She will do a monthly check in. She mentioned a Covid grant from United Way that helps towards the rent and the need for some seniors to use food stamps and the availability of fuel assistance payments.
Reverend Cindy United Church of Christ, Congregational could be an outreach contact was discussed. Reaching out to undocumented people would be helped with our flyer translation into Spanish and Portuguese. An article will be in the June 4th Boxborough Bee.
Al Murphy commented that the application was not fair to seasonal income applicants. The Board decided to ask a direct question in the application do you have seasonal income.
2. Al Murphy made a motion to have a temporary 6-month extension of benefits because of Covid. Ron Vogel seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.
3. Stefanie from MetroWest is reporting June 1 regarding an application revision review eliminating some legalize from the BRAP application and making it a little less wordy.
4. Outreach: Diane Friedman will contact Action Unlimited and the Beacon. Ron Vogel will contact the school committee. Channing Wagg will contact the United Way, Middlesex News and St Matthews Church. Rose Gage will talk to landlords and our school superintendent. It was mentioned we could put flyers in local grocery stores bulletin boards and nearby churches. Rose Gage mentioned there is a Brazilian church at the West Acton Baptist Church

III. New Business

- A: BRAP Annual Town Meeting Presentation

IV. Adjourn BHB Meeting

- A. Ron Vogel made a motion to adjourn, Al seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM

List of Documents/ Exhibits used:

1. Agenda of 5/13/21
2. Minutes of 4/8/21

Respectfully submitted by Diane Friedman