

# **DRAFT**

## **Sherman Housing Commission**

### **Minutes**

July 16, 2012

Present: Steve Roffwarg, chair. David Berto, consultant. Michelle Hansen, John O'Connor, Jeanette Perlman. Chris Jellen, Selectman. Lynne Gomez, Clerk.

Minutes: Minutes of the June meeting were approved as read.

The next step for the Housing Commission was discussed by the group. The dilemma of needing a survey and title search but having no budget was discussed.

Discussion ensued of the cost of a title search, cost of a survey of the property, and cost to form a 501C-3, a non-profit organization.

David Berto noted that the survey needed would be a boundary survey of the property, accompanied by an overlay of the easements and restrictions. The Housing Commission would draw a circle around the area it might want to develop and have a topographical survey done of the area. The property is the "Murphy" property, which is listed as town-owned, plus an additional 19 acres. It is about 66 acres behind Colonial Field.

The commission, after considerable discussion, agreed to send letters of request to each selectman in advance of the July 26 Board of Selectmen meeting. The letter would request that the Board of Selectman conduct a title search and survey of the property. What is needed in the survey was identified as the following: a soil survey and property boundaries, topographical, soil test and wetlands flagging. A search for an existing survey, conducted by Michelle Hansen, resulted in only the most basic of maps.

Commissioners noted that it is in the best interest of the town to have the survey and title search conducted. A question arose: Is the property insured properly?

Discussion of plans following completion of the title search and survey were explored. The next step would be to request leasing the property, at a nominal fee, from the town just to explore the possibilities. Examining federal and state funding possibilities is not possible without site control.

Commissioners will input their comments regarding the letter to the Board of Selectmen in the coming days, with a goal of a finalized draft on Monday, July 23.

The map that exists of the property was examined. The property includes the 48 acres of “Murphy” property and an additional 19 acres. It was not clear to commissioners, from existing documents, the ownership, easements or restrictions on the property.

Commissioners decided to set the next Housing Commission meeting after the July 26 BOS meeting.

Discussion of the vacancy left by Catharine Cooke’s resignation was discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeanette Perlman and seconded by John O’Connor. A vote to adjourn was passed at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted,

Lynne Gomez  
Clerk