

**Lyme Affordable Housing Commission Meeting
May 4, 2023**

The Commission meeting was held in person at the Lyme Town Hall. Attending: Carol House, David Lahm, Phillis Ross, Tina West, Allison Cotton.

Visitor: Warren Stark

Carol House called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Minutes

The minutes from the March 2, 2023, were approved after a spelling correction.

Old Business:

The AHC members voted to draft, in time for the June meeting, an outline to how the Stonington model of town support for repairing existing Noahs (naturally occurring affordable housing) might fit in Lyme. This model sets up a revolving fund to help existing lower-income homeowners to make qualified repairs to their houses. The loans are very low interest and requires a deed restriction for the life of the loan. The two compatible goals of this approach are to help current owners to stay safely in their houses and gives the Town additional affordable houses under the State's definition. The Stonington model was discussed in the March meeting and members had now read the Stonington documents sent by Amanda Davis. We want to see if this model can be adapted to Lyme, which is a much smaller town. Discussions at the June meeting should include maximum loan amounts and the criteria for applicants and types of repairs. A drafting subcommittee is set to meet on May 10.

Carleen, Carol, and Andy Gibson met with the Hope Partnership. Hope representatives seemed eager to work with Lyme on an AH rental partnership. We are aware of their successful partnership projects in Essex and Old Saybrook, and their impressive business model. They understand that a Lyme project will be smaller and they are interested in working on it with us.

The meeting was adjourned 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina West