

South Hadley Redevelopment Authority

Minutes of meeting of January 6, 2016

Present: Imad Zubi, Winston Lavalley, Kathy McCabe, Tony Judge, Frank DeToma, Diane LaRoche cto 6:00 p.m.

Minutes from 12/01/2015 and 12/22/2015 accepted as written.

Redevelopment Plan Discussion: Kathy McCabe recommends that there be more than one redevelopment project in the works at one time because of possible glitches/hurdles/obstacles to any one project at any particular time. This will allow the Redevelopment Authority to take advantage of opportunities as they may arise. We should start with projects that present “low barriers to success” in order to make an immediate impact. Examples of low barrier projects include the FM Smith Park landscape and wayfinding.

Bylaws: Frank DeToma has made adjustments to the proposed bylaws so that the language is now correct and appropriate to the South Hadley Redevelopment Authority. A motion was made/seconded/approved unanimously to accept the bylaws.

Imad Zubi brought up a question about insurance, does the Redevelopment Authority need its own insurance or will the town’s insurance cover the R.A.? Kathy McCabe suggested that we might need insurance for certain special events; she will look into how Authorities in other communities address the issue of insurance.

Chairman Judge will turn over the stored records of the Redevelopment Authority to Diane LaRoche for organization and safekeeping.

Proposed Feasibility Study: Tony Judge addressed the Selectboard at their January 5 meeting to encourage the creation of a feasibility study addressing the options for relocation of the Town Hall, SHELD, other town facilities. 27 Gaylord Street is one property that should be studied. Kathy McCabe mentioned that the Redevelopment Authority should encourage both SHELD and Town Hall to remain in South Hadley Falls because the Falls relies on a strong civic presence.

Revisions to Proposed Public Improvements: A revised draft of the proposed projects with short/mid/long-term goals was presented for examination. Any properties specifically mentioned in the Redevelopment Plan will require an appraisal that will be included in the plan. Kathy McCabe will suggest appraiser that we might hire. Possible sites for appraisal are indicated on the draft revisions copy in the Secretary’s notes.

Next Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 20, 6:00 p.m. @ Public Library

Adjourned 8:15 p.m.