

South Hadley Redevelopment Authority

Minutes of meeting of January 20, 2016 @ 6:00p.m.

Present: Tony Judge, Imad Zubi, Frank DeToma, Win Lavalley, Kathy McCabe, Diane LaRoche

Minutes of January 6, 2016 accepted as written.

Tony Judge and Frank DeToma met with Town Administrator to discuss the Redev. Authority budget for 2016/2017. Budget of \$120,000 will allow \$95,000 for further consultation services, \$25,000 for personnel (part-time hire for economic development). Budget proposal will go to Town Meeting in May, so it is not a done deal at this time.

Imad Zubi will be up for reappointment at the Town Meeting.

Legal: The Redevelopment Plan will need a legal sign-off before it is finalized. Kathy McCabe suggests we seek out a legal firm that has experience in redevelopment and real estate matters, she will suggest some possibilities, Frank DeToma will set up interviews.

27 Gaylord Feasibility Study: Tony mentioned that our job, in the coming year, relies on “psychology” and on providing evidence of change/growth/effort.

The Redevelopment Authority has the authority to conduct a study re:27 Gaylord St. without the Selectboard. Kathy McCabe suggests that we could take the lead, but should be open to Selectboard involvement, should also involve the Advisory Committee. It is important for the RA to do some positive things but not “step on anyone’s toes” at this point.

Points for analysis include: what are the space needs of municipal services in South Hadley, what is the feasibility of 27 Gaylord St. to meet those needs? Space needs could be studied independently of the 27 Gaylord location. This issue will be discussed further at a later date.

Community Preservation Act: Mr. Judge will be organizing a meeting in about 10 days to encourage passage of the CPA.

Future Election of Redevelopment Authority members: Kathy McCabe reminded us that it is important to clarify the process for election of future RA members, when do terms begin/end, will nomination papers be necessary? Frank D. will check with the Town Clerk for clarification.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Feb.2 at 7:00 p.m.

adjourned @7:25 p.m.