

Town of Lunenburg
Special Select Board Meeting Notes
April 17, 2025

Select Board Attendees: Harry, Nancy and Nate
Attendees: 6

Harry called the meeting together at 5:00 pm

The single item on the agenda was the topic of changing the mission of the Town-Owned Property committee. Committee member Luke had previously provided a proposal to be reviewed prior the meeting. The Committee proposed that the focus of their work be expanded to championing affordable housing within the community. There was lengthy discussion about what that championing would entail. The proposal included the committee developing Information resources for homeowners to cover a varied number of topics. The proposal also advocated for the Committee to become active in applying for grant funds to help current and prospective homeowners and developing a mechanism to distribute those grant funds to recipients. The Committee proposed assisting homeowners in need of home repairs by helping them hire contractors and facilitating repair efforts. There was also information included in the proposal that lead attendees to believe the Committee was proposing that the Town, via the Committee, develop low and moderate income properties on Town-owned property.

Attendees raised several concerns related to increased exposure to the Town's liability if the Committee became a facilitator of home repairs, a distributor of funds to homeowners and property developers. Board Member Harry shared the mutual understanding that the Town should not become a landlord. Concern was raised because the proposal had been put forth without any discussion with the Planning Committee, who has been working on this issue for the past 2 years. A suggestion was made that the Town-owned property committee expand its mission to resource development only and be established as a subcommittee to the Planning Committee. All attendees agreed this was probably the best plan of action.

It was agreed that the Town-owned property Committee would reach out to the Planning Committee to discuss them becoming a sub-committee. While the Board did not make any decisions, their consensus was supportive of the sub-committee option. Future discussions will take place after the Town-owned property and Planning committee meet.

The meeting was adjourned.