

# WHITEFISH STRATEGIC HOUSING PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

## 1. Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Wendy Compton-Ring, Ben Davis, Rhonda Fitzgerald, Kevin Gartland, Bob Horne, Dana Smith

Absent: Addie Brown-Testa, Rebecca Norton, John Muhlfeld

Others:

## 2. Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2020 meeting:

Compton-Ring/Smith moved to approve the July 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

## 3. Cash in Lieu of Affordable Housing Update and Discussion:

Dana Smith provided an update of the changing the pricing of housing/rentals and the fee in lieu. Council approved it unanimously. There were questions about the effects of the pricing and Covid-19. Dana spoke with the news reporter regarding housing prices and the story she wanted to do.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

1. Confirm the Administrative Procedures direct us to review the housing/rental prices and fee in lieu annually

## 4. Snow Lot Update and Discussion:

Dana Smith provided an update of the snow lot. The contract with the WHA. Staff provided an overview of the development review process at the City. WHA is putting together an RFP and trying to figure out which route to take whether it be an owner's rep or engineering firm or a landscape architect. The contract is for 3 years. Dana described the funding. The city does a plan to send a letter to the neighbors for an update – who's

doing the development, what the plan, 24 townhouses and public process. Lori Collins is the point person on the project, but Dana can also answer question.

*Public Comment* - Jon Carlson, neighbor on Somers Avenue. Not against the project. Had questions about rental and ownership, ownership of the property, deed restrictions, price points.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. The WHA will be taking the lead on this development.

**5. Annual Report Update and Discussion:**

Dana provided the group with an update on the lawsuit from Mayre Flowers. We held off on the annual report because the settlement agreement dictated what was going to be included in an annual report. The settlement agreement didn't approved so we are proceeding with the annual report as we see fit. Dana described what the annual report might look like. We'll also include a list of the different items for updates to the program.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Staff will send the draft to the Committee a week beforehand and ready for the October meeting.

**6. Funding Update:**

The group discussed the Great Fish, grants, down payment assistance. The resort tax is not going to happen – Council wants to keep it the same as it is currently. Impact fees waiver – Dana will work with the League of Cities and Towns to allow cities to be able to waive impact fees for deed restricted affordable houses and get a bill passes. Dave Fern is willing to sponsor the bill once drafted for the current legislative session.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Dana will be working with both Dave Fern and League of Cities and Towns to draft a bill for the next legislative session.

**7. Public comment:** See comments above on the Snow Lot

**8. Next Committee Meeting:** October 8, 2020

**9. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.