

## RIDGEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday December 20, 2023 at 7:00pm

Ridgefield Library (new location – see Minutes)  
472 Main Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut

Please note: these minutes are not verbatim.

**ATTENDEES: Present:** Kent Rohrer (Interim Chair), Debra Franceschini-Gatje (Acting Vice Chair), Jennifer Brakenwagen, Kevin Brown, Sheryl Knapp, Lori Mazzola, and Krista Willett  
**Absent:** Whit Campbell and Sharon Coleman

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

### AGENDA

1. Public comment (3 mins per speaker, up to 30 minutes)
2. Agenda
  - a. Nomination and Election of 2024 officers
  - b. Review status on Affordable Housing plan action items
  - c. Fair Rent Commission Law
  - d. Housing Trust Fund Status
  - e. Workforce Housing Research Check-in
  - f. 2024 meeting schedule and submission of data to Town Clerk
  - g. Future creation of meeting package
  - h. Other new business
1. Due to an inability to access Town Hall, the meeting was moved to the Ridgefield Library and agenda condensed to accommodate the library's 8 PM closing time.
2. **Public Comment:** none
3. **Current Business:**
  - a) **Halpin Lane:** Kent reported that First Selectperson Rudy Marconi has been corresponding with Jane Davis at Ability Beyond, who has indicated that the hold-up with the project has been with the state. It is not being discussed with state legislators, and AB has a plan to move forward. Kevin and Sheryl to reach out to Rudy to obtain additional information, especially with regard to the type of supported housing being developed, and report back to the Committee. Jennifer proposed that Jane be invited to a future meeting.
4. **New Business:**
  - a) **Nomination and election of 2024 officers:** all officer positions were filled, as follows:
    1. **Secretary:** Debra nominated Sheryl Knapp to continue as Secretary; Lori seconded. Approved unanimously.
    2. **Chairperson:** Kent nominated Debra Franceschi; Lori seconded. Approved unanimously.
    3. **Vice Chairperson:** Debra nominated Lori Mazzola; Kent seconded. Approved unanimously.
  - b) **2024 meeting schedule and submission of data to Town Clerk:** Kent presented a proposed meeting schedule for 2024, continuing with the fourth Wednesday of each month except for November and December due to the holidays; proposed dates follow: 1/24, 2/28, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22, 6/26, 7/24, 8/28, 9/25, 10/23, 11/20, and 12/18. Debra made motion to approve proposed dates; Jennifer seconded. Approved unanimously. Sheryl, as Secretary, to submit all required information to Town Hall on behalf of the Committee.

- c) As the incoming Chair, Debra proposed that a packet of information be distributed to members prior to meetings. She requested that all material be sent to her at least one week prior to each meeting for immediate distribution to Committee members with the meeting agenda.

5. **Public Comment:** none

6. **Minutes:** Jennifer moved to accept the minutes as written; Debra seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

7. **Next meeting:** The next Regular meeting is scheduled for 1/24/24.

8. **Adjournment:** Kevin moved to adjourn; Debra seconded, and the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:36.

Prepared by Sheryl Knapp, Secretary