

1 **Final Minutes of the Ashland Community Preservation Committee**
2 **Tuesday August 11, 2020**
3 **Zoom Online Meeting**

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5 In Attendance: Aaron Ladd, Gretchen Bravacos, Cathy Van Lancker, Amy Sayed, Joe Rubertone, Devin
6 Cashman

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8 Affordable Housing Trust: Steve Greenberg, David Rosenblum, Joe Magnani, Deb Griffin

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10 Assistant Town Planner: Emma Snellings

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12 Mr. Ladd called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm

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14 Steve Greenberg, from the Affordable Housing Trust, presented background history for the Trust. The
15 Trust was created in 2007 with a \$500,000 transfer from the Community Preservation Committee funds.
16 Mr. Greenberg outlined recent actions to approve \$200,000 for the creation of four deed-restricted
17 residential units at 12 Pond Street. In April 2020 the Affordable Housing Trust developed an emergency
18 assistance program of \$250,000 to preserve and support housing for Ashland home-owners and renters
19 whose income was negatively impacted by the pandemic. The Trust is working with the State to
20 determine eligibility requirements during the pandemic.

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22 Emma Snellings, Assistant Town Planner, outlined the program and described the three criteria residents
23 needed to meet to be eligible. Applicants had to document a reduction in income as result of the
24 pandemic, had to make less than 80% of the median income, and do not receive rental or mortgage
25 assistance from other means. Assistance can last for 3 months. The Trust has committed over \$18,000
26 of CARES act funds so far. The Town of Ashland received \$200,000 of CARES act money from the Federal
27 government that is usable through December, 2021. Ms. Snellings assesses applicant's eligibility and
28 reviews the results with other Town of Ashland staff.

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30 The Housing Trust also provided updated information on the purchase and resale of existing units. The
31 Trust is planning to re-sell two deed-restricted units at America's Boulevard and one single-family house
32 on Raymond Marchetti Drive in September 2020.

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34 The current balance of the Trust is \$622,147.14. The Town of Ashland is working on a Housing
35 Production Plan. The MAPC is working on the scope of work. The estimated completion is March 2021.
36 The Committee discussed the potential of a five-year plan and how best to define long-term wishes and
37 plans.

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39 The Joint Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

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41 The agenda item about the Trolley Brook Trail Update and application was postponed to the next
42 meeting to allow for more time for the BSC consultant to work on plans and estimates.

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44 Next Meeting scheduled for September 1st @ 7:30pm

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Ms. Sayed moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Sayed seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.