

# Provincetown Community Housing Council

Veterans Memorial Community Center ↻ 2 Mayflower Street  
December 5, 2016

1:05 p.m.

Members Present: Susan Cook, Paul Richardson, Ron Irwin, Elaine Anderson,

Excused: Kristin Hatch

Staff: Community Housing Specialist Michelle Jarusiewicz

Public Statements: none

Emergency Housing Assistance Funding Request: discussion began about the history of this emergency housing assistance. It was initiated by the Board of Selectmen in 2006. Funding has been approved annually for about \$20,000 plus or minus with expenditures averaging around \$12,000 per year. The funds are used exclusively for direct assistance not for administration. The Homeless Prevention Council provides case management and accesses other funds as appropriate. Discussion tabled until Maggi Flanagan arrives.

Year Round Rental Trust: the Board of Selectmen is accepting applications for the new Trust. Encourage interested parties to apply.

CPA Applications: The Community Housing Specialist discussed potential Community Preservation Act [CPA] funding applications. The Housing Specialist is proposing a new program, a Down Payment Assistance Program for \$50,000. This would be the next step in our Path to Homeownership. The Housing Council has promoted education through sponsored classes and scholarships. This would help potential homeowners with up to \$10,000 towards covering closing costs and with the down payment. It would be through a zero interest, deferred payment, and forgivable loan. Households must be income eligible, up to 100% Area Median Income and would need to provide a minimum contribution towards the down payment.

The Housing Office application for \$123,000 would continue the full-time housing specialist and services currently provided; and other potential activities. The proposed town budget for FY 2018 currently has the Housing Office as an option as discussed in the past. It is moving forward along the 2 paths – town budget and CPA request. The CPA request can be withdrawn at a later date.

Applications are due by 12/15/16. Members discussed the difference between being a co-applicant and being a supporter.

Paul Richardson MOVE that the Community Housing Council be a co-applicant for the CPA application for \$123,000 for the Community Housing Office and support the Housing Office's application for the Down Payment Assistance Program for \$50,000; Elaine Anderson second; approved 4-0.

Emergency Housing Assistance Funding Request: discussion with Homeless Prevention Council [HPC] Program Director Maggi Flanagan who reviewed the 2015 stats. The HPC is celebrating 25 years of providing services on the Lower Cape. The HPC started the Soup Kitchen and is in Town every Thursday. They do outreach with the homeless population. They work with everyone and with other agencies including HOW, ASG, COA, Schools, Churches, and the Navigator. They collaborate and try to save housing wherever possible. HPC provides contracted services for the various affordable housing developments in town. These funds are only for Provincetown residents and they don't always use these but access other funds as available. The Housing Specialist noted that the Homeless Prevention Council is a very important piece of the puzzle and does so much

more with this small amount of money; they are a phenomenal resource to the Town. They know the nuts and bolts and work in the trenches. Ms. Flanagan indicated that they have 3 full-time case managers, a full-time vista volunteer, admin staff, and volunteers.

Ms. Anderson asked, given the limited revenue stream, how about \$15,000 and return if need more funds?

Elaine Anderson MOVE to approve the Homeless Prevention Council's request for \$15,000 in emergency housing assistance funds for 2017; Ron Irwin second; approved 3-1 [SC]

MS. Cook indicated that she preferred to award the full amount of \$20,000.

**Minutes:** Elaine Anderson MOVE to approve the minutes for 9/26/16, 10/24/16, and 10/28/16; second Ron Irwin; approved 3-0-1 [PR]

**Next Meeting:** Monday, 12/19/16 at 1:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm

*Submitted by:  
Michelle Jarusiewicz, Community Housing Specialist*