

Scarborough Housing Alliance
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2024, 6:00pm

Present via Zoom: Bill Shanahan.

Present at Town Hall: Eric Boucher, Bill Donovan, Bryan Shumway, Leroy Crockett, Tom Hall, and Micaela Sargent.

Excused: Bob Nadeau.

Guests: Jean-Marie Caterina, Town Council liaison, and Ashley McLaren, as resident of The Downs (both via Zoom).

1. The meeting began at 6:06pm. Bryan introduced Bill and Ashley.
2. The minutes for January 24, 2024, were approved as presented with a motion from Leroy, second by Bill, and all members voting in favor, except Bill who abstained.
3. Tax Relief programs – Bryan discussed programs on the Town’s website and launched the link to existing State and local programs. Tom noted that all property must be billed at 100% and can create rebates. Tom described the recent State program and how it is handled in Scarborough. The current Town program applies to residents age 62+, a Town resident for 10 years, and AGI less than \$50,000. The Alliance discussed potential changes to the current program and developing resources for residents seeking opportunities that promote housing affordability.
4. DECD Housing opportunity program – Tom discussed grant program for which the deadline is March 7. Tom presented several ideas for Alliance consideration, including a potential update of the Credit Enhancement Agreement policy. Tom will determine if this will be an ongoing program for a potential submission in the next round.
5. Hotel conversions – Tom noted that it seems that there may not be further interest as new hotels are being proposed and no other inquiries have come forward. Additionally, the Town Council was concerned about various aspects of it. Bill to send an email to Town Council on behalf of the Alliance.
6. GPCOG Housing conference – Tom informed the Alliance of the conference and noted that he has been invited to present.
7. Public comment – Ashley discussed her purchase of a home in The Downs and her use of the program. She expressed concerns about changes in market value due to factors in the sales price calculation and offered some suggestions. The Alliance discussed this and will take it into further consideration.
8. The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2024. Agenda to be developed and distributed in advance of meeting date.

At 7:15pm, the Alliance adjourned its meeting with a motion by Leroy, second by Bryan, and all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Boucher
Secretary