

Stowe Housing Task Force

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Akeley Memorial Building
67 Main Street
Stowe, Vermont



Housing Task Force Members: MacKee Macdonald, Ken Braverman, Stefan Grundmann, Josi Kytile, Scott Coggins, Town Manager Charles Safford (Ex-officio)

Absent: Walter Frame, Sarah Henshaw

Attendees: Assistant Town Manager Will Fricke, Seth Jensen, Jo Sabel Courtney, Mila Lonetto, Heather Snyder, Jeff Jackson, Nancy [unk.], Kai [unk.]

Call to Order

Chair Macdonald called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Approve Agenda

Josi Kytile moved to approve the agenda. Scott Coggins seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Approve Minutes

Josi Kytile moved to approve the minutes. Scott Coggins seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Guest Speaker – LCPC

Seth Jensen, Deputy Director of the Lamoille County Planning Commission, presented the Lamoille County/ Hardwick Regional Housing Assessment and highlighted the portions that were most relevant to the Stowe Housing Task Force. McKee Macdonald asked for the specific number of Affordable units in the study area and Stowe. Seth Jensen said the study showed 191 units in Morrystown and 111 units in Stowe, with 2 vacancies at the time of the study. It was noted that it was unclear if these numbers referred to 60% or 80% AMI units. Josi Kytile asked if there is data on the change in the number of Affordable units over time. Seth Jensen said there was not in the study but he would see if there was data available. Ken Braverman said that Affordable units built anywhere benefit the whole region. The HTF agreed that a map of zoning permits in Stowe would be useful information.

Seth Jensen also discussed Act 250 changes. The HTF discussed downtown and village designations, and noted that a village designation for the Mountain Road Village could be beneficial. McKee Macdonald said that they may want to recommend to the Selectboard to start beating the drum on a designation. Josi Kyle said they should identify neighborhoods that could benefit from a designation. It was noted that Moscow Village has been considered.

Review Draft Housing Needs Assessment RFP

The Housing Task Force reviewed the draft Housing Needs Assessment RFP. The task force primarily recommended modifying the deliverables to ensure the consultant(s) were made aware of pre-existing data from local and state sources, and to emphasize the desire for recommendations.

Public to be Heard Non-Binding

No public comment.

Upcoming Meeting Agendas

Charles Safford said they have invited Downstreet Housing and Lamoille Housing Partnership to the next meeting on September 4. It was noted that the organizations have voted to merge. The Town Planning & Zoning Director and Vermont Housing Finance Agency are also slated for future meetings.

Adjournment

Chair Macdonald adjourned the meeting at 10:30am.

Notes

Minutes submitted by Will Fricke.

The Stowe Housing Task Force meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 9:00am.

A recording of this public meeting is available at: <https://www.townofstowevt.org/housing-task-force>