

Housing Board, Town of Pound Ridge
Meeting of September 14, 2009, 8:00 PM
Town House

Minutes

Present: Suzy Beatty, Kitty Wynkoop, Carol Powers, Mary LaTronica and Josina van der Maas (Chair), Don Heppner (Record Review), Paul McConville, Town Board liaison.

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:08 PM.

The Minutes of the Meeting of July 13, 2009, were approved.

A-Home submitted the name and short bio of the potential twelfth occupant of Scotts Ridge. We voted to approve, but our approval was provisional pending final approval by A-Home. Kitty questioned the value of our approval process since all we seem to do is rubber stamp what A-Home sends us. We discussed this, and agreed that it is the result of the piecemeal submission of approved candidates, which gives us no options, and the lack of more candidates on the waiting list. We feel we have done all we can to reach out to the community in various ways, such as in the Supervisor's Forum, information the Housing Board sent out to the entire community, and articles in the Neighbor to Neighbor Newsletter. We have stressed time and again that anyone who might in the future be interested in living at Scotts Ridge should put themselves on the waiting list and go through the A-Home approval process. One of the problems is that the allowable income as set by the County and A-Home is so low that virtually nobody currently living in Pound Ridge qualifies, especially if they own their home. Once the home is sold and the money invested, imputed income from that investment added to Social Security and any other income such as a pension usually exceeds the maximum allowable income. Several board members asked for what those amounts are. Suzy is to get this information from A-Home and distribute it to the Housing Board. Josina will explore writing another article for the Neighbor to Neighbor newsletter.

Ken Olsen was absent, so we could not get an update on the status of the Kitchawong Housing Corporation. We discussed the approximate cost of incorporation (up to \$1,200) and voted to support this out of the Housing Board budget. (Note: Gary Warshauer says this is illegal.)

The proposed "Advisory Committee" which would assist those interested in creating an Accessory Apartment elicited much discussion about its purpose and how to put it together. What avenues would we use to create and vet this resource list? The result was that we will put this off for now at least. A better approach would be to have another Supervisor's Forum at which the Building Inspector and one or more members of the Planning Board, as well as the Tax Assessor, should be present to answer questions.

Kitty, Mary and Josina are attending the training session on September 15 by John Nolon from the Pace University Land Use Law Center and will report on anything of interest.

Note that the next meeting is on Monday, October 5 at 8 PM.

The meeting closed at 9:28 PM.

Josina van der Maas, Chair