

Smart Growth Housing Work Group

Meeting #5 Minutes

1/2/2023

Submitted by J. Shue

1/9/23

Present: Danny Lapin, Cecelia Walsh-Russo, Sara Evenson, Jared Shue

Next meeting: Mtg 1/16/2023 at 5:30 pm (online)

1. Announcements

- a) None.

2. Discussion

- a) The City should consider hiring, or partnering with another local entity (IDA? Town? County?) to hire a Housing & Economic Development Coordinator.
 - a. City staff did not feel it was necessary or feasible to hire a full-time Housing & Economic Development Coordinator. The City is planning on hiring a consultant on retainer for housing and economic development. It is estimated at \$10,000 per year(?). **Update: this recommendation did not make it to the council level because it did not get past the housing commission. It may be beneficial for the Smart Growth group to recommend hiring a Housing & Economic Development Coordinator within "x" number of years.**
 - b. Sean Lewis asked if DRI funds can be used toward hiring a full-time Housing & Economic Development Coordinator. What's the status of DRI funds? **Update: No - Most or all of the DRI funds are accounted for according to Mayor Drnek.**
- b) Grants: The CFA grant period opens in May and ends in July.
 - i. Action: The goal of the work group is to review and make recommendations for grant applications by January.
 - ii. **The Department of State Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant Program will open on May. Applications are due in July. This is specifically geared toward integrating Smart Growth principles in a municipality's planning efforts.**
 - iii. **The group discussed the importance of public education around Smart Growth principles. This could include walking tours, visual presentations, and guest speakers.**

- c) The group would like an update from the City on the Market Street project(s). ***Update: Bonacio is no longer interested in Market Street development. Regarding 27 Market Street, the city has applied for RestoreNY money which will hopefully allow them to demo the existing structure and will provide money for new construction. Chip Klugo may be interested in development.***

3. Next Meeting

Ad-hoc meeting #5 will take place on 1/16/2023 at 5:30 pm on Google Meet.