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By Darlene Brady at 9:51 am, Jan 20, 2022

Town of Kent

Housing Plan Steering Committee

December 8, 2021

6:00-7:00pm

Meeting held via Zoom

ATTENDED BY: Jean Speck, David Birnbaum, Alice Hicks, Tegan Gawel, Justin Potter, Virginia Bush, John Johnson, and Connie Manes. Planning Consultant in attendance: Jocelyn Ayer

MINUTES:

Housing Plan will be coordinated with Town Plan of Conservation & Development update. Jocelyn let the committee know that she had spoken with Glen Chalder who is assisting the Kent Planning & Zoning Committee with the Town Plan of Conservation and Development update. The updated Town Plan is due in January 2023 and the goals and strategies developed through this Housing Plan development process will be presented to the Planning & Zoning Commission for their inclusion into the Town Plan. Jocelyn and Glen will continue to check in as these plans are being developed to make sure they are synergistic processes.

Finalize Resident Housing Needs Survey. The Committee then went through the draft housing needs survey and made suggested changes. Jocelyn will make these changes and finalize the survey. David will send his thoughts on a few of the survey questions for the committee's consideration. The goal will be to finalize the survey by the end of December and get it out to the community starting at the beginning of January. The Committee also discussed trying to get the survey translated into Spanish.

Survey Outreach- the committee then discussed the best ways to get as many residents to take the survey as possible. Jean mentioned she was hoping to go an e-newsletter in January that focused on affordable housing. The survey link can also go out on social media and a paper version could be put at the Library. There will also be a paper version available at Town Hall if residents cannot take it on their phones, tablets, or laptops.

Worker survey- the committee discussed whether they should also do a survey for people who work in town but do not live in town. Jocelyn explained that typically these are sent to major employers who can ask their employees to take the survey. The Committee agreed that such a survey would be good to do and that Jocelyn could prepare a draft for discussion at the next meeting.

Setting regular meeting date/time- the committee decided to meet on the 4th Wednesdays of the month at 6:30pm going forward. The next meeting will be January 26th. Jocelyn mentioned that at the next meeting they can review the survey results that they have received and start planning for a town informational forum about the housing plan.

Meeting adjourned.