

Truro Housing Authority Remote Work Session Minutes: March 24, 2022 at 4:15 pm

Committee Members attending: Kevin Grunwald, Chair; Betty Gallo, Vice Chair; and Mara Glatzel.

Also attending: Eliza Harned, Truro Remote.

Meeting called to order at 4:18 pm.

Roll Call.

Discussion of the Plans for Community Outreach Around The Housing Needs Assessment and Housing Production Plan.

Our hopes for the project:

- To develop a clear idea of housing needs for Truro residents now and into the future
- A comprehensive portrait of local demographics
- How housing needs and the cost of housing has changed since the last housing needs assessment
- Loss of young families, residents to fill essential jobs, and housing for seniors who want to age in place in Truro since the last housing needs assessment
- Concrete ideas for how to create year round housing opportunities
- How to use the data to rally community support for affordable housing opportunities of all types
- The impact of insecure housing on mental health, financial security, educational retention, and quality of life
 - perhaps we should have a focus group of people who are currently experiencing housing insecurity in Truro?

What are we curious to learn:

- What is getting in the way of us providing solutions
- Where are the gaps
- Getting a full picture of the actual housing stock, including legal and illegal housing
- Percentage of income that people are currently paying for year round housing rentals
- What is possible in the short term, before Cloverleaf or Walsh get off the ground
- Ideas for what might be possible included:
 - Amnesty for illegal units
 - Creating a fund for upgrades or guide of resources already available
 - Rooming house bylaw
 - Creating a mortgage assistance program

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Opportunities:

- Growing community support for affordable housing initiatives
- Identifying uses for Walsh Property as a huge opportunity that currently exists
- Support from local businesses who are struggling to keep their employees/house them
- Gaining a better understanding of the kind of housing seniors need and want
- Way to incentivize people to rent and sell their homes affordably
- Encouraging community minded behavior, like the Wellfleet Angels program

Challenges:

- NIMBY-ism that is present within our community
- Continuing shift to seasonal home ownership
- Obstructionism of local boards and committees
- Keep Truro Rural: anti-development sentiment

Next Meetings: Thurs, April 14 at 4:15 pm.

Motion to Adjourn. Mara made the motion to adjourn, Betty seconded the motion.
Unanimously voted. Adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mara Glatzel, Secretary

