

Quality of Life committee, December 22, 2022

PRESENT: Tistrya Houghtling, Erminia Rasmussen, Sharon Powers, Josh Young

Meeting called to order: 9:35am

MSC: To approve the minutes from the October 28, 2022 meeting with suggested changes was made by Tistrya and seconded by Erminia. Motion approved as amended.

Discussion:

About Air BnB – could they be enticed to offer their homes for rent and make them available for affordable housing. After discussion, decided this would not be a good use of ARPA funds.

ARPA funds – could this be used for a Health Assessment? Right now there is a big staffing problem in the healthcare field so even if we had the Health Assessment and got a grant, there may not be staff available to help us. Should we ask for \$10,000 in ARPA funds to attract a clinic or pharmacy?

Housing: - Tiny Homes and other Affordable Housing ideas. Josh & Tistrya met with the Hillsdale supervisor – they have a Housing Coalition there. Next step would be to meet with a developer. Tistrya reached out and maybe we could get one to come to one of our meetings and find out how we could incentivize one to come to New Lebanon. We need to locate shovel-ready properties – ones that are ready to be sold and the planning board process is already done.

General conversation about what is considered shovel-ready – permits already approved. We could work with a developer and maybe the Town would pay the early payments – basically all approvals would already be done.

We need to find housing where people might move and housing for new people

Will request, from Mike Tucker, information on how a municipality and developer can collaborate. Get generic overview and specifics.

There is now a Housing Task Force in the County – they are still working on getting a coordinator

Josh will talk with developers and have a conversation about what they would need.

Josh and Bob Gilson will work to follow-up on healthcare access and make an appropriate ARPA request. Tistrya will talk to Mike. Sharon will ask her friend in California about affordable housing.

Health & Wellness – after Board approval, Sharon will add a health and wellness link under Community Links for Erminia to keep updated

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am – proposed by Tistrya Houghtling and seconded by Erminia Rasmussen.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Powers