

Approved Oct. 31, 2024

**THE SOUTHBOROUGH HOUSING OPPORTUNITY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE  
(SHOPC)  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 AM  
VIRTUAL MEETING/REMOTE PARTICIPATION**

Members present: Jesse Stein, Tom Bhisitkul, Al Hamilton, Paul Desmond and Douglas Manz  
Absent: None

## CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

## New Business

- Discussion of Potential Support for AHTFC's Request to Transfer CPA Housing Funds to AHTFC

Members discussed the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Committee's (AHTFC) request to transfer funds earmarked for affordable housing from the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) to the AHTF. The AHTF aims to streamline the process, which currently takes 7-19 months. That amount of time makes it unlikely the AHTF will be able to pursue opportunities as they arise. The committee debated the bureaucratic challenges of transferring funds through the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), emphasizing the need for a more efficient process. Mr. Hamilton mentions that this practice is common in many communities in the Commonwealth

He also explains that the Select Board supports the idea and requests support from SHOPC as well.

Mr. Hamilton shared an example of a failed attempt to buy a home on Southville Road, highlighting the need for funds to be available quickly. He said the application includes a broad description of the intended uses of the funds. He also mentions that there have been no applications for the funds in over 10 years, and the funds have not been spent.

Members discussed the idea but raised no substantive objections.

*Mr. Hamilton moved, Mr. Desmond seconded, and it was unanimously voted by roll call to approve the transfer of the available balance of funds designated for affordable housing from the CPC to the AHTF.*

*Roll call in favor: Jesse Stein, Tom Bhisitkul, Al Hamilton, Paul Desmond and Douglas Manz  
Opposed: None  
Abstained: None*

47        • *Motion carries 5-0.*

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49 **NEXT MEETING:**

50 The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 7 PM.

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53 **ADJOURNMENT**

54 MOTION by Mr. Stein to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Hamilton

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56 *Roll call in favor: Jesse Stein, Tom Bhisitkul, Al Hamilton, Paul Desmond and Douglas Manz*

57 *Opposed: None*

58 *Abstained: None*

59        • *Motion carries 5-0.*

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61 Respectfully Submitted,

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63 Douglas J. Manz

64 SHOPC Chair

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67 Documents used:

68 None