

Minutes
Barons South Committee
June 3, 2011

The meeting of the Barons South Committee was called to order by Steve Daniels at 9:45am.

In attendance:

Steve Daniels, co-chair
Marty Hauhuth, co-chair
John Thompson
Paul VanOrden
Jo Fuchs-Luscombe
Yvonne Senturia
Reverend Ed Horne
Barbara Butler
Gail Kelly, assistant Town Attorney
Shelly Kassen, Selectwoman

Absent:

Sharon Rosen

Steve Daniels moved that the May 20 minutes be approved. Marty Hauhuth seconded. The motion carried.

Wesley Village site visit arranged by Sharon for June 16, at 1:00pm (editorial note: time later changed to 1:30pm).

John will be visiting a friend who is moving to Middlebrook Farms in Trumbull. He will bring back brochures.

MA site visits set for June 20-21st, unless text amendment overturned by P&Z. The following are attending one or both days: Shelly, Steve, Marty, Barbara, Jo, ?Ken, ?John. Yvonne will resend details, including hyperlinks.

RTM Planning and Zoning had first hearing, with second on June 8th and full RTM on June 14. Shelly reported John McCarthy commented on flexibility in the text amendment. Steve reported that some had difficulty understanding why not presenting a proposal before the text amendment, and that testimony aimed to help understand the process and why important to have the text amendment before RFP, so respondents have some idea of whether will work. Shelly commented on contradiction between saying done deal and also saying no plan. Asked to provide RTM P&Z with (1) expansion of the facility definitions (Yvonne), (2) proposed infrastructure costs (if anything, would lessen as transition to resident coordinator), (3) town attorney to explain process going forward and (4) funding and preferences. Steve pointed out rules different for housing and health care. Barbara pointed out different funding rules even

within HUD. Ken pointed out importance of accuracy in responses. Specific examples from Hales Court and Gault project in Saugatuck.

Julie Robison, UConn will come on July 13 for a tour of the site and light dinner at 4:00pm. Proposed community forum from 7:00 – 8:30pm at senior center will begin with her speaking, followed by update from Barons South Committee and public questions/comments. She commented that “what you guys are trying to do is pretty cool”.

Steve, Carol Martin, John, Paul and Ken will work with Gail on framing the RFP. Steve and Paul will talk to Hartford re funding sources.

Report on site visit to Carroll Village, May 20, 2011 Met with property manager and supportive services coordinator. Senior residential community operated by Presbyterian Senior Life that includes 3 buildings so far: Schartner House (50 apartments) and Westminster Place (35 apartments) that are affordable independent senior rental housing built using tax credits and Moyer House (41 apartments) that is market rate independent senior rental housing. Moyer House differs only in slightly larger floor plans and washer/dryers within unit, rather than on each floor. Average age at Schartner House is 77 years. People leave for skilled nursing facility when they need 24 hour nursing care or have cognitive impairment. Van transportation to grocery store is most popular service. Activities of Daily Living assistance handled by county aging services or agency of resident’s choice. Supportive services coordinator can suggest agencies for ADL support or rehab and can monitor home care workers if family allows. Only five residents of Schartner House receive meals on wheels, and residents do not want congregate dining. Westminster Place has space that will be for small café/dining room, which will have meals available for purchase. Free laundry room and trash room on each floor. Community room and library on ground floor.

Contact information for Schartner House emailed to Steve and John, so they can ask more financial questions.

Ed reported that received letter from Charlie Haberstroh about local developer who has done senior housing in Annapolis MD, who is interested in speaking with committee. Steve and Marty will set up a meeting.

Independent senior housing to have matrix of (unbundled) services available, so that people can age in place until they can no longer be safe and secure.

Mews (assisted living rooms and suites) offers basic level and an a la carte package of bundled additional services.

Meeting adjourned 11:00am. Agenda will be on website. Minutes after approval will also be posted.

