

Sheffield Housing Commission
Minutes of meeting
November 17th 2010

The Sheffield Housing Commission met at the Sheffield Town Hall on November 17th 2010-7:30 pm. Members present were: Marilyn Wightman, Christine Ludwiszewski, Kathy Orlando, Michael Citrin , John Stookey and Paul O'Brien.

Guest present : Maggie Martin -Sheffield Planning Board

Michael Citrin brought the meeting to order. The minutes were reviewed and approved for the October 20st 2010 meeting.

Chairman Citrin opened the meeting informing the commission of his recent meeting with the planning board. The planning board was receptive to working with the Housing Commission on the accessory apartment project . Copies of the Sheffield version of the Accessory Apartment Program "Step by step guide to creating an accessory apartment " were distributed. A discussion was held on the best way to distribute the guide. Kathy O. suggested distributing the guide, with a cover letter, to all of the town boards.

John S. brought up the idea of a tax incentive for those home owners willing to create an accessory apartment. A discussion followed concerning the advantages and disadvantages to this idea. Maggie M. volunteered to ask the assessors office what are the tax consequences of a home owner adding an accessory apartment to their house.

Chairman Citrin introduced a potential grant application available from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission that would provide technical assistance to the Sheffield Housing Commission (and planning board) in our efforts to write/rewrite a bylaw concerning accessory apartments. Kathy O. described previous uses of these types of grants in Sheffield. A motion was made that we should apply for this grant,the Sheffield Housing Commission was in full agreement and gave the go ahead to the Chairman. Chairman Citrin agreed to contact all the necessary parties (select-board, planning board, and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission) and to begin the application process. The application is due on December 15, 2010 .

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

The next meeting will be held on January 19th at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted Paul O'Brien