

Sheffield Housing Commission
Minutes of meeting
March 21st 2012

The Sheffield Housing Commission met at the Sheffield Town Hall on March 21st 2012 at 7:30 pm
Members present were: Marilyn Wightman, Michael Citrin , John Stookey, Kathy Orlando , Christine Ludwiszewski and Paul O'Brien.

Call to order: Michael Citrin brought the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of February 15th 2012 were approved as submitted

Unfinished business : Chairman Citrin opened the meeting reporting to the Commission on the recent HousingUs annual meeting. Representatives were present from various housing agencies/organizations. Groups present included , Hudson Housing (<http://www.hudsonhousing.com/home.html>), The Woman's Institute for Housing and Economic Development (<http://www.wihed.org/>), Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire-Tim Geller (<http://www.cdcsb.org/>), as well as other housing organizations from the tri-state area. Christine Ludwiszewski reported to the Commission on her recent attendance at the "The Future of Housing in the United States and Connecticut" 18th Gallivan Conference – UCONN Law School 24 February 2012 (see attached Future of Housing slide show) a number of issues were discussed with relationship to housing issues. Ms. Ludwiszewski helped the Commission understand the importance of looking at the demographic data available as the Commission addresses present and future housing needs in Sheffield. Potential solutions mentioned included the conversion of existing spaces into multifamily spaces. With Ms. Ludwiszewski help, Commission members will gather demographic data for the Commission to review at the April 18th meeting. In addition Ms. Ludwiszewski suggested that the Commission consider hosting a Berkshire County conference similar to the UCONN conference where participants could discuss the changing demographics of Berkshire County as they relate to housing issues. Suggested next steps for the Commission include; completion of the housing inventory of the town, reviewing the demographic data of the town and discussing/planning a future Berkshire County housing conference promoting the accessory apartment bylaw. Ms. Ludwiszewski agreed to contact the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission asking for their "benchmark" data, John Stookey agreed to provide the Commission with home sale/housing stock data and Michael Citrin agreed to ask the town for the most recent census data.

New business: None

Adjourn : The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm, Next meeting will be held on 4/ 18 /2012, Respectfully submitted , Paul O'Brien