

**Town of Long Island
Year-Round Housing Committee
Minutes, March 31st 2008 (Originally scheduled for April 1)**

Voting members: Mark Greene (Chair); John Billings; Lorinda Valls; Amy Tierney; Will Tierney; Mike Maloney; Cade Brown.

Present: Mark Greene; Will Tierney; John Billings; Leah Doughty; Lorinda Valls; Mary Nanos; Tammy Hohn; Alden Robinson (Island Institute Fellow).

Meeting called to order, 7:08 p.m.

Will Tierney made a motion to accept the minutes with no changes; John Billings seconded; minutes from 3-19-08 meeting accepted unanimously.

By-laws

Mark Greene asked for further discussion of the by-laws, or, failing that, a motion to accept them.

John Billings moved (a.) that the Year-Round Housing Committee join the Year-Round Housing Corporation; and (b.) that the committee recommend the by-laws to the Corporation for adoption. Will Tierney seconded. The committee voted unanimously to support the motion.

Houses for sale

Lorinda Valls said that Terry and Rocky Horr and Adam Burroughs were selling their houses at the East End. The Burrows house would most likely have to be torn down.

Leah Doughty said that in some cases, people have limited flexibility with their asking prices because of home equity loans they have taken out against their houses. Mark Greene said this was possibly the case with the Beach Avenue house and others, but a realistic low bid on places always has the possibility of being accepted when needed by the seller. He encouraged folks to make bids if they wanted something – make them as low as needed!

Alden Robinson said that the Holt property on Ocean St. was also for sale.

Green standards

Mark Greene reiterated that high fuel prices made adopting green standards for YRHC construction more important than ever. Leah Doughty said that it made sense to include the green standards as recommendations, since common sense would dictate any homebuilder would follow them anyway. Mark Greene said that the committee need not rush to reach consensus on the green standards, and while they are delaying the final lease wording, it can wait a while longer. We need to keep in mind that it is of some importance that the community feels that we are building good quality houses. The State may well be on the edge of adopting stricter standards as we speak so waiting will possibly clarify what we need to do. Will Tierney said he saw it as a question of affordability--that for the house to remain affordable (and therefore an asset to the community) it had to be efficient.

Voter letter

Mark Greene shared a proposed letter to Town Meeting voters explaining and detailing the YRHC's two warrant articles. The committee reviewed it and made minor corrections. We will use some meeting time later this month to get it in envelopes and mailed.

Land request

Mark Greene said the Selectmen were favorably reviewing the YRHC's request for lot 626 next to the church, and for the merged lot on Garfield Street. A person raised concerns about the legality of creating a single lot from the three Garfield St. lots but Greene met with CEO Jim Nagle who said it did not appear to be a problem. Jim Nagle also said the proposed swap and reconfiguration of the Fowler Road lots also seemed doable under current ordinance wording.

Mark Greene said the Selectmen were hesitant to release lot 726 on the “Wicked Corner” as it is potentially so valuable, it might be better to sell it and maybe earmark some of the proceeds for the Year-Round Housing needs in the future. However, Mark said that lot Lot 811 across from the East End Schoolhouse might yet be viable depending on what access changes result from ongoing paper street proposals. The Selectmen will be asked to finalize their support for additional parcels so they can be listed in the warrant article.

Will Tierney moved to adjourn; second by John Billings; meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.