

Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness December 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Members Present: John Haffner (Chair), Jen Kravitz, Brandon Smith (Selectboard Liaison), Maggie Burnett, Nancy Trottier, (remote) Dan Nott (remote); Lori Hirshfield (staff)

1. Call Meeting to Order

John Haffner called the meeting to order at 6:05PM. He then read the script regarding the meeting being a hybrid format with in-person and remote access.

2. Review Order of Agenda

Lori asked that we add a discussion of 2025 meeting dates to the end of the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approve October Meeting Minutes

There were no changes to the minutes. Jen Kravitz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Dan Nott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

5. Next Steps on Rental Inventory Survey Review

Maggie presented the most recent draft of the Rental Inventory. Brandon suggested questions concerning resources used for setting rental rates. There was discussion on gathering information about rental rate increases. It was determined that keeping the survey about inventory and easy to complete was best for the first iteration. Lori and Maggie will work on the next draft for January.

6. Participation in the Upper Valley Candlelight Vigil and Memorial on 12/20/2024

Lori provided information about this year's Candlelight Vigil and Memorial starting at Listen at 5:45. Nancy Trottier spoke about how powerful the event has been in the past and individual committee members plan on attending.

7. Continue to Discuss Solutions for the Unhoused Community and Point in Time Survey

John Haffner reported that Listen and The Haven are looking for volunteers for the Point in Time Survey. He suggested that there may be additional information about the count at the 12/13/2024 Housing First meeting. Because funding can be attached to the data, an accurate count of the unhoused is important. It was also suggested to have Michael Redmond, Executive Director of the Haven attend one of our meetings.

8. HCHH's FY 2024 Town Report

John Haffner and Jen Kravitz will work on the HCHH report for FY 2024.

9. News From Committee Members

Jen Kravitz asked about HCHH looking into senior housing in Hartford and getting a better understanding of what is available. Lori reported that the hiring of a Housing Specialist is moving slowly. Lori also confirmed the second Thursday of the month for meeting dates in 2025.

10. Update on Town Website Page on Housing

Dan Nott asked the committee what information would be appropriate for the HCHH website. Suggestions included an interactive survey, the HCHH mission statement, links to overview information, links to HomeShare, information on ADUs, what HCHH is doing and what is happening with housing in Hartford. Lori suggested looking at other town websites for ideas and to curb redundancy.

11. Adjourn Meeting

Barndon Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jen Kravitz seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting ended at 7:37PM.

Committee Members

John Haffner, Chair (through 12/12/2024)

Jennifer Kravitz, Vice Chair (through 4/03/2025)

Dan Nott (through 11/25/26)

Nancy Trottier (through 9/18/2025)

Maggie Burnett (through 12/11/25)

Brandon Smith, Selectboard Liaison

Lori Hirshfield, Staff Liaison