

Town of Richmond Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: July 22, 2025

Time Started: 7:02pm

Time Ended: 8:29pm

Present:, Virginia Clarke, Mark Hall (Chair), Andrew Mannix, Mairead O'Reilly, Connie van Eeghen

Guest:

Absent: Nick Blanchet

Committee is approved at 5 members, 2 alternates (5/16/22); quorum is 3

1. Welcome and troubleshooting (0:00:00)
2. Adjustments to Agenda – none (0:00:15)
 - a. Adjusted the agenda to exclude discussion of meeting schedule
3. Approval of the June 24, 2025 meeting minutes
 - a. Accepted as written (0:00:30)
4. General Updates and Discussion – Committee (0:00:45)
 - a. Review Town Plan Narrative updates – Mairead (0:02:00)
 - i. https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Housing_Committee/Meetings/2025/07/Draft_2_Narrative_Housing_Section_Town_Plan_2026_.pdf
 - ii. The narrative acknowledges the difference between the need for housing and Richmond residents recognition of the critical nature of that need
 - iii. It includes the potential impact of legislative change
 - iv. Andrew: we need to acknowledge our impact on the overall problem and our ability to address
 1. Roadmap at the end: include action items related to communicating what the vision is
 2. We need to commit to actions that are within our expertise and authority
 - v. Virginia updates
 1. Planning Commission wants to see continuity with 2018 plan
 2. Narrative: 2 pages and easy to read; major difference from 2018 is urgency
 3. Data: put in Almanac or Appendix for Housing; Virginia identified examples to move
 4. Accomplishments
 - a. Housing Committee formed
 - b. Housing Needs Assessment developed
 - c. Housing report conducted and some recommendations adopted
 5. Review of Mairead's Narrative draft and suggestions on how to focus it
 - a. Expect that narrative draft will be re-written by the Town Plan Steering Committee
 6. Need to add the goals and action items to the Narrative
 7. Next step: keep the parameters set by Virginia's document and the strength of Mairead's
 - a. Mairead to revise
 - b. Virginia to provide feedback
 - c. Andrew will comment as needed
 8. Reminder: we need our draft ready to forward to Steering Committee by end of August
 - b. Review Town Plan Action Items - Mark (0:55:35)
 - i. [Town Plan Draft- Housing Committee.docx](#)
 - ii. Minor corrections to wording
 - iii. Review list of past goals to remove
 1. Mark to write to the Steering Committee with this request
 - iv. Ok to share with community groups (such as Richmond Racial Equity) as a draft
 - c. Review Strategic Housing Plan and determine next steps (1:06:00)
 - i. [Strategic Housing Plan 25-DRAFT-MASTER COPY](#)

- ii. Mark: where does this plan go next? It came from a request from the Selectboard to develop our own goals and
 - 1. Virginia: consider for Almanac for next Town Plan
 - 2. Virginia: return to Selectboard for review and approval
 - a. Consider requesting from Jay Furr or Josh Arneson
 - 3. Mark: we need to develop priorities around these items
 - a. We may ask Selectboard to assist with setting priorities and direction
 - b. Connie will email Josh with our request
- 5. Other business, correspondence, and adjournment (1:19:00)
 - a. Next meeting: Originally planned for Tuesday, August 26 at 7p
 - i. Agreed to meet on Tuesday, September 2, at 7p
 - b. Proposed agenda to include: Review Narrative, Strategic Plan Action Items and Priorities, Plan for Selectboard Presentation
 - c. Agreed to adjourn at: 8:29

Recorded by Connie van Eeghen