Community Land Trust Working Group Meeting 6 Notes - Friday, September 7th

Members present: Co-chair Alderman Ewen-Campen, Ben Baldwin, Fred Berman, Alexandre Galimberti, David Gibbs, Liz Haney and Ellen Shachter

The group reviewed the mission statement after receiving some initial feedback, and agreed upon the following revised language:

The Somerville Community Land Trust promotes neighborhood stability and engagement through the creation and preservation of permanently affordable housing. We empower low- and moderate-income people along with those who share our vision of community control of land by fostering stewardship of perpetually affordable homeownership and rental housing and providing supportive services. The Somerville CLT provides opportunities to all residents regardless of immigration status and works to develop innovative methods to increase homeownership and address our housing crisis.

Following final edits to the mission statement, the group discussed previously identified parcels that might be suitable for an initial CLT acquisition. Hannah informed the group that she would be meeting with George Proakis, Director of Planning, regarding the identified parcels specifically and whether or not any might be made available for CLT purposes. An update will be provided to the group on that conversation at the next CLT WG meeting.

An idea to have members of the CLT Working Group present the work done so far to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (as they are a potential source of funding) was posed and the group generally agreed this would be worthwhile. This will be discussed in further detail at the next CLT WG meeting, with the next Affordable Housing Trust meeting expected to take place on October 11th at 6:15pm.

Community engagement approaches and materials were discussed extensively. It was agreed that having a table at upcoming City events such as SomerStreets (October 14th) would allow the working group the opportunity to speak with residents directly about this concept and provide a bit of information regarding what a CLT is and how it might benefit them. Ellen offered to assist Hannah in developing draft materials, which will be reviewed and revised at the next working group meeting. The group agreed that separate materials should be developed for presenting the CLT to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and informing the public about the CLT model. It was agreed that a basic educational flyer/handout would be needed for initial engagement of the community, and that a more formal document would be appropriate for a presentation the Trust. Draft documents will be presented to the group at the next meeting for revision.

Meeting 7 of the Community Land Trust Working Group has been scheduled for **Tuesday, September 25th at 8:30am in the Aldermanic Chambers.**