Community Land Trust Working Group Meeting 7 Notes - Tuesday, September 25th

Members present: Co-chairs Alderman Ewen-Campen and Teresa Vazquez-Dodero, Ben Baldwin, Fred Berman, Alex Bob, Kevin Gatlin, Liz Haney, Alderman JT Scott and Ellen Shachter

The meeting began with updates and upcoming items of note. First off, it was shared that it is reasonable to expect that a city-owned parcel such as the Cummings School or the Recreation Commission building could be allocated to the future Somerville CLT for an initial acquisition. While nothing is set in stone, this is an encouraging piece of news and the Mayor is eager for the group to continue this important work.

Additionally, a potential trip to Burlington, VT on October 11th to both attend a session related to CLTs at the National Community Development Association quarterly meeting and visit the Champlain Housing Trust was posed. It is still being determined whether or not this would be feasible, as it might have to be an overnight trip given the length of the drive. If it is not feasible to do on the 11th, the group can discuss whether it would be interested in going to the Trust at a later date and not attend the conference session. More updates on that will be provided as received.

The group was also informed that while someone from the Mayor's Office would not be in attendance at this meeting, Annie Connor from the Mayor's office is expected to attend the next working group meeting on October 9th. Please think about questions you might have for the Mayor's Office in anticipation of Annie Connor's visit.

In preparation for speaking at HONK! and tabling at SomerStreets, the group discussed materials needed for these events such as a banner and easily digestible information on CLTs. The previously drafted FAQ was reviewed and edited by the group and a revised version will be sent out as soon as possible.

After discussion on what images/words should be used for a banner and flyers, both Teresa and Alderman Scott volunteered to work on creating graphics and developing an informative flyer. The group also took some time to develop an interactive activity for SomerStreets, as tabling at the event is free if an interactive activity is provided. The group will be getting one giant sheet of paper for kids to draw their dream home or neighborhood which will result in a drawing of what the Trust wants to preserve and create. Kevin also volunteered to look into whether there might be funds available from Winter Hill Bank through the Community Reinvestment Act, as banners and other items of that nature will require a budget of some sort- thanks for that Kevin.

Alex Bob will be doing a quick presentation at HONK! this coming Saturday, October 6th. All are encouraged to attend to support Alex and speak to community members about CLTs. Fred also informed the group that Our Revolution is interested in learning more about CLT efforts at their next meeting on October 29th. More details on that to follow, along with more details on the potential to present at an upcoming Affordable Housing Trust Fund meeting.

Meeting 8 of the Community Land Trust Working Group has been scheduled for **Tuesday, October 9th at 9:00am in the Aldermanic Chambers.**