

Home Trust of Skagit
Home Trust of Skagit Office
Nov. 21, 2017
5 p.m.

In Attendance: Derrick Baer
Kent Haberly
Susan Rowe
Steve Omdal
Lynn Christofersen
Wendie Granberg

Excused: Kari Kennedy
Gabriel Olmsted
Becki Bell

Absent: Vanessa Scee
Connie Pommels
Germaine Kornegay

Staff: Jodi Monroe
Bill Craig

The Union Block building was locked and staff was unable to get in. Meeting location was moved to Home Trust. Meeting started at 5:08 p.m. Quorum was not reached and board could not take official action.

Consent Agenda: Committee structure discussion. In previous minutes, residence committee should be “residents”. “Donor development” should replace “fundraising”.

Jodi reported that Lenka no longer works for Home Trust and has brought Darene back on after a recommendation by Williams and Nulle. Darene briefly worked for Home Trust earlier this year. Due to the transition, a financial report would not be presented at this meeting. Darene will present the financial report and profit and loss statement, and will educate the board at the December meeting.

Discussion ensued about Summerlynd and the construction funding for which we are seeking reimbursement. Jodi said closing will take place on Dec. 29. Bank loans are signed. Very minimal change orders have been put in. Jodi said BYK has been going the extra mile to get the paperwork in for the county reimbursement. Discussion. The idea was to use the \$100,000 before using other funding sources. The county is asking for minutiae on the amount of materials used by BYK subcontractors. Items were submitted but not good enough for the county. Jodi said she

has been trying to get the county employees managing our sought-for funds to take a tour of Summerlynd but they have not done so. \$100K and \$54K in reimbursements have not been released. Discussion. Jodi told board members about the county employees stating Bill Craig and family being ineligible to purchase a house due assumptions about his position with Home Trust, that he has decision-making authority on who gets a house, all the while agreeing that Bill and his wife are qualified. Jodi said she met with an angry and hostile Health Department director. Jodi said she told the director, Jennifer Johnson, that there is a clause in the contract that an agency could ask for an exception. The director said it was an “egregious” error on Home Trust’s part. The director said a exception request letter would not have mattered because the answer would have been no and said that if Bill lives on the lot there would be problems. Jodi recounted that at this point Home Trust has not received any money at all from the county in reimbursements. The director told Jodi that the entire \$600,000 was being put in jeopardy, as well as any future Home Trust-directed funds. Jodi said the meeting was unpleasant and hostile. Kent added that he, Jodi, and Paul Schissler had a meeting on Friday. He said that Bill qualifies under the exception. Lynn said staff at Community Action apply for money, too, through their program. Kent said that Paul asserts Home Trust is in the right, and he praised Jodi for rightly handling the problem. Kent said there will be a formal question directed to the county. We still don’t have a signed commitment from Bill and so everything is still in the works. Discussion. Kent said we will write the letter. Jodi said Paul has been in communication with Kayla Schott-Bresler. Discussion. Kent said he wants to get the letter to Tim Holloran. Lynn said Paul is the best bet and is the CDBG expert. Jodi said Kayla doesn’t like Paul involved. Jodi said she will shepherd this through. Susan asked if the Summerlynd project is in jeopardy because of this. Jodi said no. Discussion. Kent told Jodi that he wants to be included in the meetings that she would schedule with Kayla and Kathy Ferris. Discussion. Lynn asked why the county staff didn’t ask about why we didn’t write a letter but instead went with a threat. Kent said it is unacceptable that it rose to a confrontation.

Committee Structure: Item was tabled until December meeting.

From the Floor: Wendie said she is disappointed in the attendance at the meetings and the fundraiser. Discussion. Susan brought a map about Mount Vernon’s subarea plan and brought up her concerns. Susan said that there is a public meeting but the public was not invited. Kent said decisions about the plan won’t be made until after the first of the year and that new members will be seated on the city council. Discussion.

Event Wrap Up: Kent said it was a good first step. We will set up a committee in January to work on a fundraiser for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Bill Craig