



# CITY OF BIDDEFORD

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## Planning and Development Department

### Mayor's Affordable Housing Task Force Meeting Minutes

**Date:** June 28, 2022  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Hybrid Meeting: City Council Chambers & Remote Access Meeting (1MRSA § 403-B permits public proceedings through remote access during the declaration of state of emergency due to COVID-19).

#### Committee Members in Attendance:

Doris Ortiz (Chair), Ciel Caldwell (via zoom), Jessica Johnson, Reverend Shirley Bowen (via Zoom), Dan Boucher, Marty Grohman (via zoom), Seth Harkness, Dominic Deschambault & Ian Garcia-Grant

Staff Present: Jim Bennett, Greg Mitchell, Gail Wilkerson, Brad Favreau, Danica Lamontagne & Nan Whitten

1. Chair Ortiz brought the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.  
Jim Bennett introduced Greg Mitchell, Director of Planning & Development.
2. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Amy Nucci of the Habitat for Humanity gave a presentation about their agency.

- She talked about their process and some of the issues they have at this time such as a lack of land.
- She told the committee about the ongoing project in Cape Porpoise. She has offered to give the committee members a tour of the project.
- Habitat has land in Sanford and will begin to develop it once the Cape Porpoise development has been completed.

Brad Favreau of Planning & Development gave a presentation on Housing

- He talked about the housing inventory and historical housing data
- He talked about how the fact that the influx of people to Biddeford have raised the income levels and housing prices.
- Jim talked about the allocation of available resources per pupil and the needs of the housing spectrum.
- Rent Control was discussed, and the subtraction of supply & demand in rental properties. More information on this will be presented before the next meeting.
- Incentives to keep rents from going up was suggested.
- A committee member brought up the possibility of having developers with multiple projects give back a certain percentage to affordable housing so that the developers cannot buy out of it like in Portland.

- Workplace housing driven by median income at a time when no one thought median income would go up; it has increased by 36%.

Danica Lamontagne gave an update on the surveys. The surveys have already gone out, they have received 436 responses, and they are open until July.

3. Consent Agenda:

**MOTIONS:**

Caldwell: Motion: To Approve Meeting Minutes from 5-24-22

Deschambault-Grant: Second

Unanimous Approval of Meeting Minutes from 5-24-22.

4. Adjourn:

- Boucher: Motion to adjourn
- Deschambault: second
- Motion carried with unanimous vote

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Task Force Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

These minutes are summary and are not intended to be verbatim. Archived meetings are viewable on the City's website: [www.biddefordmaine.org](http://www.biddefordmaine.org).