Joshua Degen called the meeting to order at 7 pm. Joshua Degen reported that the Selectmen have requested an update from the housing trust. This update would need to be in joint executive session. The housing trust members agreed to this request and a meeting will be scheduled.

Fredrick Dunn moved to have the Town of Groton Affordable Housing Trust update the Board of Selectmen in executive session on its investment in Mount Laurel Development LLC. Sheila Julien seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Stuart Schulman absent).

Trust members reviewed the letter from Mount Laurel Development dated April 13, 2017. Authored by Attorney John J. Davis of Pierce Davis & Perritano LLP, the attorney requests the courtesy of an extension until May 15, 2017 due to his other commitments and the fact that he was recently retained to represent his client. Trust members discussed this request and decided that it would be logical to grant the request.

Joshua Degen moved to have the Town of Groton Affordable Housing Trust grant an extension to May 15, 2017 to Mount Laurel Development, LLC to have a full, complete and concise answer and a commitment to take the necessary actions as outlined in its April 6, 2017 letter with no further extensions to be granted and to authorize Joshua Degen to sign. Fredrick Dunn seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Stuart Schulman absent).

The group discussed the fact that this letter was directed to Town Counsel instead of the housing trust. Attorney Davis would have been obligated to communicate directly with counsel as soon as he was made aware that the housing trust had representation. In the discussion, members expressed interest in not consuming unnecessary amounts of Town Counsel’s time and that communications could be directed to the Trust. Fran Stanley will ask Town Counsel to inform Attorney Davis that the Trust prefers direct communications.

At 7:20 pm, the Trust voted to enter executive session and not to re-enter regular session.

Minutes by Fran Stanley.