

SHARON HOUSING TRUST NEWS

Who Are We?

- A local, private, non-profit corporation
- All local volunteers
- Seeking to increase affordable housing opportunities in Sharon
- Working with the town, regional non-profits, the state, businesses, foundations, individuals

What Have We Done?

2005 Sharon Housing Trust established.

Aug 2022 New board appointed.

June 2023 Purchased six units at 91, 93 and 95 North Main St. Operating them as affordable rental units. Seeking state grant to renovate properties.

July 2024 Granted option by town to lease old community center at 99 North Main St. Town seeking grant to convert building into four affordable rental units.

August 2024 Received donated landscape plan for unified campus of the four buildings on North Main St.

December 2024 Received donation of building lot in Silver Lake Shores neighborhood.



Our Newest Project

Silver Lake Shores

How about a new, affordable house with water views? A generous, anonymous donor has given us a lot in the Silver Lake Shores neighborhood to clear and redevelop. Existing septic and well will support new construction. Plans are underway for a cost-effective design, site clearing, and new building. Watch for news as we work to advance this example of “scattered site” affordable housing.

Progress on North Main St.

Our acquisition in 2023 of 91, 93, and 95 North Main St. depended on the provision by generous, anonymous, local supporters of a \$100,000 bridge loan on favorable terms. As a result of the considerable level of donations we received in 2024 from local foundations, individuals and businesses, we were able to repay the bridge loan at the end of 2024. This puts our North Main St. project on a firm financial footing for the near term.

We await news from the state on our grant application to pay for renovations to 91, 93, and 95 North Main St. In the meantime, during 2024, we have used generous local donations to fund upgrades and repairs to the buildings.

Next door to our three buildings, at 99 North Main St., is the old

Our Directors

Richard Baumann
 Larry Moskowitz
 Dale Jones
 Tom Bartram
 Dick Berry
 Arlin Deboer
 Andrew Ferentinos
 Herbert Moore
 Carol Neiley
 Fred Peters
 Bob Whelan (emeritus)
 Patricia Whelan (emerita)

THE NEED

- Sharon households: **1,300**
- Sharon affordable housing units: **42**
- **30%** of Sharon households (almost 400 households) are **housing-cost-burdened** (30% or more of income spent on housing).
- **13%** of Sharon households (almost 170 households) are **severely housing-cost-burdened** (50% or more of income spent on housing).

Through the end of 2024, we raised more than \$200,000 from local foundations, individuals, and businesses. We are grateful for this generosity! But housing is increasingly expensive, and our ongoing projects require ongoing support. We ask everyone in the Sharon community to consider supporting our efforts.

town community center. The town has granted us an option to lease the building and has applied for funding that we would use to convert the building into four more affordable rental units. If the funding comes through, we will exercise our option, lease the community center, convert the building, and unite our four buildings on North Main St. into an affordable housing campus.

In anticipation of this goal, Lynden Miller, the renowned landscape designer and Sharon resident, has generously donated a design for the unified campus. In 2025, with the help of local donations and volunteer labor, we hope to start planting as much of the design as possible, consistent with the building renovations for which we await funding. See a portion of the design, below:



Please help support affordable housing in Sharon!

Please consider donating to us. It's tax deductible and it's easy to do. Just point your phone at the QR code to the right, and you will be taken to the donations page of our website, where you can review your giving options.

