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MEMO

To: Town Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Building Commissioner & Town Attorney

From: Planning Department *DCP*

Date: February 7, 2018

RE: Fair Housing Law Training

Federal Fair Housing Law Training

Thursday, March 8th

7:00 PM

Audubon Library

As the recipient of Federal funding, the Town of Amherst is required to follow Federal Fair Housing Laws. Not doing so jeopardizes our funding and opens the Town up to possible litigation.

In addition, as part of our Federal funding received from HUD, the Town as a whole is required to "affirmatively further fair housing" and does so according to our *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice* report which outlines goals and actions by which the Town will undertake and report on our progress to HUD. Training local officials and staff on Fair Housing Law is one of the required actions outlined in this adopted report.

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), a non-profit housing discrimination and advocacy organization serving Western New York, is currently contracted with the Town to provide services regarding Fair Housing issues, including education and training.

We have organized a training session to be provided by H.O.M.E. on Federal Fair Housing Law and the town's role and responsibility in regards to the law for Town officials and staff. The staff attorney from H.O.M.E., Daniel Corbitt, will lead a 40 minute session, followed by a 20 minute Q&A. This training will also be open to the public.

The Planning Department is inviting members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Board, and associated Town staff to attend this training. Certificates will be provided to board members and staff who attend the training and require documentation.

Please RSVP to Laurie Stillwell at (716) 631-7050 or lstillwell@amherst.ny.us.

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