

Housing advocate honored

Nancy Tavernier was one of three people honored by the Massachusetts Housing Partnership recently, for her many years of service working to increase the supply of affordable housing in Acton.

Tavernier was honored with a Housing Hero Award at an awards luncheon held on June 12 at the partnership's seventh annual Housing Institute training for local officials and volunteers. Tavernier was honored in the volunteer category.

The award was given to Tavernier by Aaron Gornstein, Gov. Deval Patrick's Undersecretary for Housing. Gornstein recognized Tavernier for her more than 20 years of service as a member and chairman of the Acton Community Housing Corporation.

Tavernier is credited with accomplishments including overseeing initial



The Massachusetts Housing Partnership recently recognized Nancy Tavernier (fourth from left) with its annual Housing Hero Award for her volunteer efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing in Acton. Joining her for the awards luncheon held in Devens were, from from left, Bob Van Meter, vice chair of the Acton Community Housing Corp. (ACHC), Selectman Jane Adachi, state Sen. Jamie Eldridge, former selectman Lauren Rosenzweig Morton, Bernice Baran, board member of the ACHC and Acton Housing Authority, Town Planner Roland Bartl and Kelly Cronin, executive director of the Acton Housing Authority. COURTESY PHOTO

discussions with Chapter 40B developers that have resulted in 78 affordable rental homes.

She was recognized for advocating for the successful transformation of the old high school into 15 affordable rental homes. She has supported the use of Community Preservation Act and other local funds to provide funding for affordable housing, had the town join a regional network to monitor its stock of affordable homes and initiated and

worked with other town boards to develop a 40B comprehensive permit policy.

Tavernier received a legislative citation from state Rep. Cory Atkins.

Tavernier was appointed to the corporation board in 1987 when she was serving as a town selectman. She became the volunteer chair of the board in 2000.