

*These minutes are not verbatim, but a condensed version of what transpired at the Lakewood Housing Authority (LHA) Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held on **Thursday, April 8th, 2021 at 6:36 pm**, via Zoom.*

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mr. Stafford-Smith called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Teresa Acosta announced that consistent with the Open Public Meetings Law: P.L.1975 c231, which requires that all meetings of public bodies shall be open to the public at all times, both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided to the clerk of the Township of Lakewood, the Ocean County Library, the Asbury Park Press, and the Star-Ledger on December 31st, 2020 and was posted on the Authority's official designated public bulletin board at the LHA Administration Building and website.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, attending Commissioners were:

Gregory Stafford-Smith – *Chairperson*
Shabsi Ganzweig – *Vice Chairperson*
Angela Caldwell – *2nd Vice Chairperson (6:51 pm)*
Denise Douglas – *Commissioner (6:38 pm)*
Eli Rennert – *Commissioner*
Gizel Torres – *Commissioner*

Also attending:

Scott Parsons – *Executive Director*

Absent were:

Yehuda Gold – *Commissioner*
Terrence Corriston – *Attorney*
Ray Coles – *Township Liaison*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 4th, 2021 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Mr. Ganzweig, seconded by Mr. Rennert. Ms. Caldwell & Ms. Douglas were absent for the vote; all other commissioners present were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Minutes of the Closed Session of March 4th, 2021 were reviewed.

A motion was made by Mr. Ganzweig, seconded by Mr. Rennert. Ms. Caldwell & Ms. Douglas were absent for the vote; all other commissioners present were in favor. Minutes were approved.

COMMENTS FROM HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENTS - None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

BILLS AND APPROVAL OF SAME

Bills were reviewed. After discussion, a motion to approve was made by Mr. Ganzweig, seconded by Mr. Rennert. Ms. Caldwell was absent for the vote; all commissioners present were in favor. Bills were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Mr. Parsons to STEPS regarding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to put forth a cooperative plan to expand the use of the monies that were designated for LHA.

A motion was made by Mr. Ganzweig to memorialize the Boards support of Mr. Parsons letter to Mr. McNeil from STEPS and the motion was seconded by Mr. Rennert. Ms. Caldwell was absent for the vote; all commissioners present were in favor.

Letter of appreciation from LHA participant.

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Parsons presented the Board with his Executive Directors report.

Mr. Stafford-Smith briefly discussed the recent COVID-19 vaccinations and commended the authority for the coordination efforts.

Mr. Parsons also mentioned that immediately before Passover the LHA was provided with a substantial amount of food for leaven/chametz. It was sorted and repurposed/donated to the John J. Currey residents.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Stafford-Smith spoke on behalf of the Personnel Committee regarding the annual Executive Director review. The committee is very pleased with the progress that Mr. Parsons and the staff has made especially maintaining the continued service to the clients during the COVID pandemic. It was a tremendous effort and does not go unnoticed. There has also been tremendous progress with the FSS and Homeownership programs and look forward to continued efforts and participation in interagency agreements as demonstrated in the letter to STEPS.

LHA BUDGET REPORT

The budget report was provided and briefly discussed with the Board.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY - None

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP LIAISON - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - The following new business came before the Board:

a. Resolutions:

Resolution 5288: Extending Pest Control Contract. Motion made by Mr. Rennert, seconded by Ms. Douglas. On roll call approving, Mr. Stafford-Smith, Ms. Douglas, Mr. Rennert and Ms. Torres. Ms. Caldwell was absent for the vote and Mr. Ganzweig abstained. Resolution 5288 was approved.

Resolution 5289: Extending Contract for Elevator Maintenance. Motion made by Ms. Douglas, seconded by Ms. Caldwell. On roll call approving, Mr. Stafford-Smith, Mr. Ganzweig, Ms. Caldwell, Ms. Douglas, Mr. Rennert and Ms. Torres. Resolution 5289 was approved.

b. Additions: None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD - None

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS


Ms. Caldwell mentioned that DCA has announced that there will be assistance to landlords and tenants for up to 6 months of back rent.

Mr. Ganzweig thanked Mr. Parsons for giving him the opportunity to have a conversation regarding possibilities of expanding the Homeownership Program with utilizing the Housing Trust Funds with hopes to move forward to enhance the services we provide to our clients.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Caldwell, seconded by Mr. Ganzweig. All present voted to adjourn at approximately 7:54 pm.

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as held on Thursday, April 8th, 2021.



Scott Parsons, Secretary
Executive Director