

Brooklyn Housing Authority
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Brooklyn Housing Authority Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 10:00am
Clifford B. Green Building

1) Roll Call – Bruce Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

Members Present:

Chairman	Bruce Parsons
Vice Chairman	Sandra Brodeur
Member	Lisa Arends
Member	Anna Whalon Ramos

Others Present:

First Selectman	Austin Tanner
Recording Secretary	Susan Wolchesky
Superintendent of Brooklyn Schools	Patricia Buell
TEEG Executive Director	Anne Miller
PHA Executive Director	Kathy Carter

2) Approval of April 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Motion (Brodeur / Arends) approved by unanimous consent to accept April 6, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with no discussion.

3) TEEG Homelessness Charette: Anne Miller, TEEG Executive Director and Patricia Buell, Superintendent of Brooklyn Schools, provided an overview of their group, the TEEG Homelessness Charette, which seeks to share homeless experiences, advocacy, and is a “group of concerned individuals representing many local agencies... [that] serves to educate, inform and provide solutions to the unique issue of homelessness...Members of the charrette include: state and local officials, law enforcement, non-profit agencies, funders, and interested individuals from the local community.”¹ Unhoused individuals face 1+ years of homelessness prior to being housed.

a) Justice-involved Homelessness: Conversation about difficulties faced by individuals who are released from Danielson Superior Court into homelessness without documentation, including those who are unable to enter family shelters and/or have disqualifying statuses.

b) Additional Comments: Anne Miller identified that there is currently no available shelter space in CT, and other challenges faced by unhoused individuals. The humane society provides emergency fostering of pets but has a limited time frame of 1-2 months.

¹ <https://teegonline.org/case-management-services/homeless-support/>

4) Brooklyn Schools Mobile Food Pantry Location - Access Community Action Agency:

Patricia Buell, Superintendent of Brooklyn Schools, expressed interest in approaching *Access* to add a mobile food pantry location that is accessible to Brooklyn families.

- a) Motion (Brodeur / Arends) approved by unanimous consent to approve Patricia Buell's request to express having the Brooklyn Housing Authority's support when approaching *Access* with the mobile food pantry location request.

5) Additional Discussion: Anna Whalon Ramos expressed interest in pursuing a Rental Cap Commission to address rising rent prices and combat housing insecurity as part of the ongoing conversation for the importance of affordable housing. She will look into it and provide additional information at the next meeting.

6) Public Comment: None

7) Adjournment: Motion made by the Vice Chair to adjourn the meeting at 10:55am passed by unanimous consent. Next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Whalon Ramos
BHA Member