

Brooklyn Housing Authority
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Brooklyn Housing Authority – Special Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 2, 2019
10:00am at the Brooklyn Community Center

1) Roll Call – Bruce Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:19am.

Members Present:

Chairman	Bruce Parsons
Treasurer	Aida Bissonnette
Member	Donald Francis

Others Present:

PHA Executive Director	Kathy Carter
PHA Business Manager	Sarah Schoppe
First Selectman	Rick Ives
Board of Finance Liaison	Sandra Brodeur
Recording Secretary	April Lamothe
Public:	Austin Tanner

Absent Without Notice:

Vice Chairman	Paul Phaiah
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2) Reading and Approval of minutes: Aida Bissonnette made a motion to accept the minutes from September 18, 2019. Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

3) Discussion on Community Center Building: Bruce Parsons asked for an update on the Community Center Building. Rick Ives said that at the next Board of Selectmen meeting it will be recommended to go to a Town Meeting.

4) Discussion on Properties on Tiffany and Front Streets: Bruce Parsons asked for an update on 29 Tiffany Street and 5 Front Street after they sold it for a \$1. Rick Ives replied that the Town is involved with the properties closely due to issues surrounding 29 Tiffany Street. Michael Licamele handed over the running of the buildings to his son who is learning how to manage the properties. Rick Ives mentioned that there has been property damage caused by the tenants, which has caused the Fire Marshall and Building Official to keep inspecting 29 Tiffany Street. The property is almost up to code after the damage.

Donald Francis asked if the Town had orders against the owner. Rick Ives replied that there were orders, but they have met the orders. Donald Francis said that the blight ordinance should be applied to the building. Rick Ives said that there have been no blight complaints. Discussion ensued.

Rick Ives said that the owners promised 5 Front Street would be fixed by May 2019, but it has not been fixed yet; the building is not habitable, but is structurally sound. Rick Ives will have Building Inspector take another look the building. Bruce Parsons said that the Housing Authority was not able to work on 5 Front Street before the sale because due to being listed on the Historical Register, which was released from the register before the sale.

Donald Francis asked who the blight enforcement officer is; Rick Ives replied Margaret Washburn. Rick Ives said that the blight ordinance is too vague to really allow the Town to do anything. He will have Margaret Washburn inspect the properties. Aida Bissonnette asked if the Housing Authority could submit a blight complaint; Rick Ives said yes.

Donald Francis would like a report on the orders that the Blight Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshall, and Building Official have on properties near Quebec Square by the November 20th meeting. Rick Ives will try to have those reports by then.

Sandra Brodeur asked if 5 Front St is in worse condition then when it was sold; Donald Francis replied no, just broken windows. Sandra Brodeur asked why no blight complaint was made against the Housing Authority when they owned it and why it is okay to file a blight complaint now. Donald Francis replied the Housing Authority, with Kathy Carter, was working with the State to get the funding in order to fix the building. Kathy Carter said that they covered broken windows, evicted the homeless, and kept a fence around the property. Rick Ives said that there is no difference in condition; windows have been covered and homeless evicted. Discussion ensued.

- 5) Other Business:** Bruce Parsons asked about the roof on the Community Center Building. Rick Ives said the roof will be started in three weeks; the RFP is out. Bruce Parson asked if there was a plan to keep children off the roof; Rick Ives and Sandra Brodeur replied that prickly bushes will be planted around the building. Rick Ives said that BB guns have been used against the windows recently.

- 6) Public Comment:** None

- 7) Adjournment:** Aida Bissonnette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:48am. Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
April Lamothe
Recording Secretary