

Brooklyn Housing Authority
Mailing: #87 Quebec Square
Brooklyn, CT 06234
(860) 779-3339 (phone)
(860) 779-7274 (Fax)

Brooklyn Housing Authority – Special Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, January 21, 2020
10:00am at the Brooklyn Town Hall

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

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
Selectman	Lou Brodeur
Recording Secretary	April Lamothe

Absent:

Vice Chairman	Paul Phaiah
---------------	-------------

2) Reading and Approval of minutes: Aida Bissonnette made a motion to accept the minutes from October 2, 2019. Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

3) Election of Officials: Aida Bissonnette made a motion to keep the slate as is. Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

4) 2020 Meeting Dates: Aida Bissonnette made a motion to accept the 2020 meeting dates as read (listed at the end of the minutes). Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

5) Discussion of the status of Tiffany St and Front St regarding the owners and what the Town is doing to clean the properties up with Rick Ives: Rick Ives reported that the State Police, Fire Marshall, Building Inspector, and Eversource have met at 29 Tiffany St twice in the past regarding violations. Currently, the building meets regulations and will be inspected again in February, unless there are complaints from the tenants, if which, it would be inspected immediately. He has helped change some of the tenants and they are pleased with seven of the current tenants. Kathy Carter asked if Rick Ives spoke with the owners about screening the tenants; Rick Ives replied yes and better ways to find new tenants. Bruce Parson asked about blight; Rick Ives responded that he wants to follow the statutes regarding blight.

Rick Ives said that 5 Front St is in imminent danger status and he is working with the owners to figure out what they should do with the building. There will be an update on 5 Front St at the next meeting. Rick Ives would like the paperwork saying that the historic designation is off 5 Front St to be able to tear it down, if the owner would like to. It would cost more to structurally fix the building, than to tear it down.

Rick Ives also mentioned that there was a complaint that the meters had been changed, which was why Eversource has been involved. Eversource found it out it was their error. He said that there is a new maintenance person who lives in the building and takes care of the building.

- 6) **Status of the town taking over the Community Center:** Bruce Parsons asked if the Town owns the Community Center; Rick Ives said that the Town has the authority to purchase the building, the paperwork just needs to be signed. Discussion ensued on the uses of the building. Rick Ives will have the papers drawn up and will make sure it was approved during a Town meeting.
- 7) **Other Business:** Rick Ives mentioned that the percentage of affordable housing is at 9.6% after selling 29 Tiffany St and 5 Front St. Since the number is under 10%, things can be approved with Planning & Zoning that the Town might not necessarily want. He would like to bring ideas to the Housing Authority to see what they think of the solutions that arise. Aida Bissonnette asked if there would be State money in order to purchase other buildings to add to the affordable housing percentage; Rick Ives said they would have to wait for the State's budget to see what funds may be available. Kathy Carter would like to see the inventory of affordable housing; Rick Ives will send the list to her. Donald Francis ask about the old Arrow-Hart mill building; Rick Ives has three different designs on his desk, but there is no funding.
- 8) **Public Comment:** Sandra Brodeur asked what exactly the Housing Authority owns; she was told just the four houses. She then asked how they are doing finically and if are there reports; Kathy Carter said yes there are reports and that they are audited every year. Bruce Parsons and Aida Bissonnette said that Kathy Carter gives them reports at meetings. Discussion ensued about affordable housing in the Town.
- 9) **Adjournment:** Aida Bissonnette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:49am. Donald Francis seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
April Lamothe
Recording Secretary

2020 Housing Authority Meeting Dates

March 18
May 20
July 15
September 16
November 18