

Brooklyn Housing Authority
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Brooklyn Housing Authority – Special Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 22, 2022
10:02am at the Clifford B. Green Building

1) Roll Call – Bruce Parsons called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Members Present:

Chairman	Bruce Parsons
Vice Chairman	Sandra Brodeur
Member	Lisa Arends

Others Present:

Board of Finance Liaison	Sandra Brodeur
Public	Lou Brodeur
	Joseph Voccio
Staff Members	Jana Roberson
Recording Secretary	April Lamothe

2) Reading and Approval of minutes: Sandra Brodeur made a motion to accept the minutes from July 20, 2022. Lisa Arends seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

3) Report of the Management Agent: Sarah Schoppe emailed a report to the Housing Authority, since they were not able to attend the meeting. Lisa Arends commented that the two properties they take care of are immaculate.

4) Conversation with Joseph Voccio regarding Affordable Housing:

Bruce Parsons asked if the Small Cities Program was still available; Joseph Voccio replied that he believes it is still available, but the focus had been on housing and is not sure if they have changed their focus recently. Joseph Voccio believes that money through the Town should still be available for home improvements. Housing Authorities are now requesting money directly from the Department of Housing (DOH). The DOH is looking to fund shovel ready projects; the Town would spend the money to acquire the property and create a development plan, then seek approval from the DOH. Once approved and funded, the Town could be reimbursed what was spent. He also mentioned that the DOH would accept concept proposals; this allows Towns the chance to apply for funding, before spending too much money on a project. Bruce Parsons asked if the DOH has a list of consultants they recommend; Joseph Voccio said that CHFA has more resources and that he would send a list to the group. Sandra Brodeur asked if there were any completed project that they could use as examples; Joseph Voccio will send some examples to the group, especially New London where they have made an impact on the streetscapes and neighborhoods. Joseph Voccio said that some Housing Authorities have created revolving loans funds using HTTCC funds to provide first time home buyers with down payment or closing costs assistance. Sandra Brodeur commented that might be something for the Housing Authority to look into; many times, a potential buyer's rent is more than a mortgage payment, but they do not have the money upfront for a down payment. Discussion ensued.

- 5) **Affordable Housing:** Jana Roberson told the group that there had been a proposed zone change for 5.5 acres behind CVS from planned commercial to R10 that was denied. She also mentioned that there are new conceptual, revised plans for the redevelopment of the Tiffany Mill property. They would not be renovating any of the existing structures, but taking down the old buildings and building new housing. Discussion ensued.
- 6) **Conversation with Michael Licamele:** The Housing Authority is unaware if Michael Licamele has responded or been notified that they would like to speak with him.
- 7) **Update on 29 Tiffany St and 5 Front St:** Nothing new to report.
- 8) **Update on Community Center:** Sandra Brodeur said that there should be a Town Meeting soon where the public can vote on the sale of the Community Center to the Town.
- 9) **Public Comment:** None
- 10) **Adjournment:** Sandra Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:48am. Lisa Arends seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
April Lamothe
Recording Secretary