

ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
68 WINDSOR AVENUE, ACTON MA 01720
MINUTES
April 30, 2012

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TOWN CLERK, ACTON

Present: Ken Sghia-Hughes, Nancy Kolb, Dennis Sullivan and Robert Whittlesey
Absent: Bernice Baran
Also Present: Kelley Cronin

Mr. Whittlesey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Mr. Sghia-Hughes made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Kolb and unanimously voted in the affirmative to:

Approve the minutes of the March 27 and April 10, 2012 meetings.

2. Ms. Cronin let the Board know one of the families in our condominium units became a first time home buyer in Acton. She let the Board know that one of the Windsor Avenue tenants is trying to organize a tenant's organization. Ms. Cronin reminded the Board that she had assisted a resident a couple years ago in organizing a meeting but the residents decided they did not want to have a tenant organization.
3. Ms. Cronin updated the Board on the Governor's Commission on Public Housing. The Commission had a hearing on Friday, April 27th in Boston which Ms. Cronin attended. There were many private housing organizations who spoke about their interest in running the Public Housing portfolio. There were a variety of viewpoints expressed at the Hearing.
4. Ms. Cronin updated the Board on the No Smoking Policy. All of the residents were notified that the start date on the policy was May 1st. Ms. Kolb suggested that there should be no smoking signs put up around the property. Ms. Cronin agreed that it was a good idea.
5. Ms. Cronin let the Board know the funders are requiring that the AHA create an LLC to own the new property. The Board discussed the name of the new development and decided. The Board wanted to recognize the Chair for his dedication to building more affordable housing in Acton. The Board also wanted to recognize the previous Director for all the work she did to create the existing housing units. Ms. Kolb made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Sullivan and unanimously voted in the affirmative to:

Name the new development after the Chair, Robert Whittlesey and name the existing family units after the former Director, Betty McManus.

6. Ms. Cronin discussed the upcoming Board of Appeal hearing for the new units. She also updated the Board on the financial issues. The staff has to keep track of all the invoices for the project for submittal reimbursement to the funding agencies. Ms. Cronin updated the Board on the capital plan. DHCD has not approved all of the plans yet.
7. The Board reviewed Community Preservation Committee and Acton Community Housing Committee activity.
8. Ms. Cronin discussed the legal opinion the Board had requested in regards to changing the local preference to not include Boxborough. The AHA will have to conduct hearings and solicit input before making any preference change. The AHA also has to make sure that the current preferences do not result in limiting access to housing opportunities for minority applicants. Ms. Cronin will do an analysis of the current centralized waiting list. If the Board decides to go forward with the preference change hearings will be held in the fall.
9. Mr. Sullivan made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Sghia-Hughes and unanimously voted in the affirmative to:

Approve the March voucher (monthly list of accounts payable) as presented.

10. The Board went into executive session to discuss tenant debts owed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley A. Cronin
Executive Director

Attachments:

Minutes of the March 27 and April 10, 2012 meetings, Memo from Manette Donovan Esquire, CEDAC documents, March voucher