

EAST HAMPTON HOUSING AUTHORITY MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

May 19th, 2021 6 PM ZOOM

Call to Order

A board meeting of the East Hampton Housing Authority was held on 5/19/21 via Zoom. It began at 6:10 and was presided over by Tom Denman.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included Eric Gibson, Tom Denman, Beth Kelpen, Bonnie Berkovich, Roseanne Amenta

Guests in attendance included Jodi Brazal, Sheryl Dougherty, Dion Roccapiore, Kevin Reich, Emmet Flannery, Louise Guertin, Timothy and Kathy Chapman, Marilyn Gerzabek, Kelly Zeitlin, Shirley Shaw, and one unidentified.

Voting Members not in attendance included: N/A

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous April 21, 2021 meeting was made by Beth Kelpen and seconded by Eric Gibson.

Payments of Bills and Financial Report - Tom question several past accounts, Easy Door and Gano's appearing as checks transacted.

Communications – Jodi emailed with David Cox regarding CBDG will comment later in meeting.

Public Comment- Kevin Reich thanked both Tom and Jodi for information provided regarding the bulk cable discussion by reading a letter submitted on April 22, 2021.

He also mentioned discussion regarding property purchase adjacent to Chatham Acres in addressing the need for low-income housing in East Hampton.

Updates & Reports

Maintenance Projects was presented by Dion Roccapiore.

Water heaters are all coming up on their 6yr warranty and are beginning to fail. Concern regarding many units do not have clear access to the units should they fail posing a flooding hazard. Solutions suggested were some type of leak detector that supports electrical capacity.

Work Orders will now be required by the state to document work requested, this will be providing an accounting and log of work requested and completed.

Resident Services Coordinator report was presented by Sheryl Dougherty.

Rental Redetermination, Energy Assistance and upcoming Rental Rebates are the primary focus. She is working with the tenant commissioner to update the bulletin boards. She is also beginning to develop some social engagement activities within Covid-19 guidelines.

Commission on Aging report was presented by Bonnie Berkovich.

Bonnie reported that the Commission on Aging is still trying to determine if a survey of senior needs will be completed. She reported a vacancy on their board, and their hopes to meet in person in June. There was a suggestion that with Kevin Reich's interest that they might move forward with their previous interest in creating increased housing opportunities in East Hampton.

Tenant Commissioner report was presented by Roseanne Amenta.

Roseanne presented comments from residents expressing dissatisfaction with the appearance of the lawns at Chatham Court.

Dion and Tom reported dry conditions, grub issues, and the concern of fertilizer and pesticides impact on the well water as contributing factors. Current sidewalk repairs take precedent as those repairs will impact the lawn.

Roseanne also present tenant concerns with the closed community room impacting the convenience of laundry on site at Chatham. The laundry room is small and uncomfortable.

Suggestions were made to set up the patio appropriately for social distancing at this time per the Governor of the State of CT due to our vulnerable population, community rooms must remain closed.

Vacancy report Chatham Acres: 2 Bellwood: 1

Active Business

CDBG - Town Council has approved the CDBG resolution, the next step will be signatures, and then putting the project out for bid.

Bids Bellwood Repaving Project -pending a variety of points in keeping in sync with CDBG projects

Bulk Cable - Jodi reported new information, the housing authority has been unaware of, that being Bulk Cable violates fair housing law. It is unlawful to have any service built in/required in fair housing rental agreements.

Options are individual accounts for Basic Cable at \$56/m, streaming, or indoor antennae.

An educational process will be needed to assist residents in obtaining what they desire for television viewing. A motion to move this discussion and Bulk Cable decision to the June 2021 meeting was moved by Roseanne Amenta, seconded by Bonnie Berkovich. The motion carried unanimously.

Recertifications and Inspections

B. **Tabled:** Addition for Chatham Acres (tabled until estimate is received)

New Business –

Work Orders – see Maintenance report.

Adjournment

Roseanne Amenta moved that the meeting be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 7:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sheryl Dougherty, RSC
