

EAST HAMPTON HOUSING AUTHORITY MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 16th, 2022 6 PM ZOOM

Call to Order

A board meeting of the East Hampton Housing Authority was held on 3/16/22 via Zoom. It began at 6:00 and was presided over by Eric Gibson

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included Eric Gibson, Donna Goodspeed, Bonnie Berkovich, Roseanne Amenta

Employees in attendance: Jodi Brazal, Sheryl Dougherty, Dion Roccapriore

Guest in attendance: Judith Bobbi, Barbara Brusseau, Timothy Chapman, Emmet Flannery, Kathleen Finn, Louise Guertin, Marilyn Gerzabek, Alberta Hyland, Ann McLaughlin, Bunny Simko, Fredi Winstanley, Kelly Zeitlin

Voting Members not in attendance included: Beth Kelpen

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous February 16, 2022 meeting was made by Donna Goodspeed and seconded by Bonnie Berkovich

Payments of Bills and Financial Report - February Financials approved

Communications – none

Public Comment- Bunny Simko requested clarification regarding current vacancy and waitlist. Jodi Brazal clarified the total number on the waitlist typically stands at approximately twenty-four. The total number of empty units currently ready for new tenants is one at Bellwood Court and zero at Chatham Acres.

Updates & Reports

Maintenance Projects was presented by Dion Roccapriore.

Fire Marshall inspections have been conducted. Emergency signs and lights have been replaced as have the other things requested.

The second D'Amelia inspections have been completed resulting in two units not passing due to tenant cleanliness issues. These units are in jeopardy of losing funding. Funding is not reinstated if lost. So this would be the permanent loss of two financially assisted units.

Snow removal went OK for the last storm, hoping that was the last storm, this will be a continued effort into the next snow season.

Daniel's Oil is unable to bury the tank at Bellwood Court due to it being too close to the parking lot.

Resident Services Coordinator report was presented by Sheryl Dougherty.

Movement is being made with Comcast/Xfinity to address the high cost of television services.

Comcast/Xfinity will be presenting Internet Essentials at both locations Tuesday March 22nd. IE is a low-cost internet provider that would allow residents to stream television programming at a fraction of the cost of cable. With Government funding IE can be obtained free of cost.

The Commission on Aging will be presenting their Senior Needs Survey Results on Monday March 21st. This will give residents the opportunity to be involved in assisting the town to address the

needs identified.

Easter Dinners will be provided by the Foodbank and the Knights of Columbus are providing fish dinners Friday nights. Signups are available in the mail rooms.

Interns will be continuing to put together social engagement activities and events for residents.

Rent renewal paperwork is due and being collected.

Following up with stragglers who have not applied for energy assistance, which is a quick five to ten minute meeting with me or our interns that could potentially save residents up to four hundred to a thousand dollars on their electric bills.

Commission on Aging report was presented by Bonnie Berkovich.

Bonnie reiterated Sheryl's report stating the Commission on Aging will be presenting the Senior Needs Survey to residents.

Tenant Commissioner report was presented by Roseanne Amenta.

Roseanne had nothing to report.

Active Business -

CDBG - Jodi Brazal reported the state level questions remain unanswered. The state has new questions regarding the Adults with Disabilities Act ADA accommodations. Eric reported he would reach out to our contact Jen to schedule a ZOOM meeting to identify next steps in getting this two year old grant in place.

Property for Expansion - Due to lack of response from the property owner, East Hampton Housing Authority will look at currently owned property.

It has been identified with Jeremy DeCarli that a right of way from Christopher Rd in fact does not exist and the wetlands identified are much smaller than previously informed.

Eric and Dion will meet Saturday March 19th to "walk the property" available to discuss options

New Business –

Automated External Defibrillators (AED) have been proposed for each community room due to the ongoing issue of staffing shortages in our town emergency response teams. Current wait times have been up to one hour for response. Training has been agreed to and will be required of staff. Donna Goodspeed fully supported this proposal, indicating they do in fact save lives. Donna will assist in researching grants for both purchase and training and report back within the month.

Move to In-Person Board Meetings

There will be no board meeting in April 2022, due to travel and no quorum availability.

A motion to move the East Hampton Housing Authority Board meetings to In-Person effective May 2022 was made by Donna Goodspeed and seconded by Roseann Amenta.

Vacancy Report -

1 Bellwood 0 Chatham ready for occupancy.

Jodi reported a lack of qualified tenants, several applicants have not passed the D'Amelia screening, having failed their background checks. There are several units currently leased but will be becoming available in the next several months. Applications are currently closed and not being accepted; this is to allow for the renewal process. During this time letters will go out to all applicants on the waitlist to

determine if they wish to remain on the waitlist or if circumstances have changed. D'Amelia is in the process of inspecting their units. EHHA Inspections and lease signings will occur in May 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Bonnie moved that the meeting be adjourned Donna seconded, this was agreed upon at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sheryl Dougherty, RSC