

**NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING**

**April 18, 2017
8:30 a.m.
227-27th Street, Newport News**

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
2. Roll Call
3. Consider approval of minutes of regular meeting, March 21, 2017.
4. Communications
5. New Business
 - a. Report on Examination of Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2016
 - b. **PUBLIC HEARING** – Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher and Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation (SRO) budgets
 - c. Consider Resolution approving the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018
 - d. Consider Resolution approving the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation (SRO) Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018
 - e. Consider Resolution authorizing the demolition application for 801 A&B 33rd Street (Building #15) at Marshall Courts
6. Report to the Board
7. Closed session in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711
8. Consider adoption of resolution certifying a Closed Meeting in conformity with Virginia law.
9. Any other business to come before the Board.
10. Adjournment

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority
March 21, 2017**

Having duly given public notice, the Board of Commissioners of the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority met at the offices of the Authority at 227-27th Street, in the City of Newport News, Virginia, at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Knight led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and those present were as follows:

Commissioners present: -
George Knight
Bea Berry
Lou Call
Gary Hunter
Kenneth Penrose, Jr.

Commissioners Clark and Hager's absences were excused.

Also present: Ray Suttle, Jr.
Jones, Blechman, Woltz & Kelly, P.C.

Karen R. Wilds
Executive Director

Carl V. Williamson
Housing Operations

Valarie Ellis, Director
Administrative Services

Sandra Powell, Director
Community Development

Lisa Dessofoff, Director
Finance

Teresa Bennett
Administrative Assistant

Nora Misenti
Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia

Approval of Minutes, February 21, 2017

Commissioner Hunter moved that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on February 21, 2017 be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Call and passed with a majority vote. Commissioner Berry abstained as she was not present during the February meeting.

Communications

The following communications were provided to the Board and reviewed by the Executive Director. 1) Letter to the Executive Director from HUD approving the request for conversion to Project Based Rental Assistance of Spratley House and the New Lassiter Courts. HUD has given the Authority a commitment to enter into a housing assistance payment agreement under the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program (RAD). The Authority submitted applications for both of these properties to the Virginia Housing Development Authority for low income tax credits. This would be the major portion of financing the renovations of these properties.

New Business

Public Hearing

The Chairman announced a public hearing was being held to receive comments on the proposed Public Housing Agency Five Year Plan for 2017-2021 and the 2017 Annual Plan. A Notice appeared in the Daily press on Sunday, January 29, 2017, the Tidewater Hispanic on February 1, 2017 and the Korean Post on January 26, 2017 stating the draft plan was available for public review at the Authority's office at 227 27th Street, Newport News, Virginia during business hours. No public comments were made.

Commissioner Hunter made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Call seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
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**A Resolution of the
Newport News
Redevelopment and
Housing Authority
Approving the Five Year
Agency Plan and Annual
Plan for Fiscal Year 2017**

The Board had been provided copies of a resolution authorizing the submission of the HUD form 50075-ST, Public Housing Plans (five year plan and annual plan for fiscal year 2017-2021) to HUD in accordance with statutory regulations. The Agency Plan is a comprehensive guide to the policies, programs and services offered to clients, operations and plan to assist with local housing needs. The Five Year Plan describes the mission and goals of the Authority. Ms. Wilds stated that the Annual Plan is a detailed review of all Authority operations along with the Capital Fund Program priorities. The Plan includes comments received from residents attending the Resident Advisory Board meeting on January 30, 2017.

Commissioner Call made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Penrose seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote. The resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**A Resolution of the
Newport News
Redevelopment and
Housing Authority
Authorizing the
Continuation of the
Authority Scholarship
Program.**

The Board had been provided copies of a resolution authorizing the continuation of the Authority Scholarship Program. Ms. Wilds stated the scholarship program began in 1980 with one scholarship. Since 1989, the Authority has been able to provide two scholarships annually in the amount of \$1,000 each for four years. The scholarships are awarded to a resident residing in public or assisted housing. This year's banquet is scheduled for May 16, 2017.

Commissioner Hunter made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Penrose seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote. The resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Report to the Board

A Report to the Board for March, 2017 had been provided to the Commissioners. A copy of the subject report is on file in the office of the Executive Director.

Mr. Williamson reported that Thomas Nelson Community College is offering free career training to qualified recipients through Virginia's new EleVate SNAP Employment & Training pilot project. Recipients of SNAP may qualify for this program, which provides training and support for participants interested in starting a new career. Also, nomination ballots, for residents, have been distributed to each property for individuals interested in running for a resident council position at their respective property.

Ms. Dessoffy reviewed the Voucher Utilization Report in the Report to Board. There was a planned decrease in 9 vouchers. This will continue to decrease over the next few months as we stop issuing new vouchers. Next month we plan to bring the Section 8 budget to the Board. The Housing Authority audit will be submitted to HUD this month. A representative from Cherry Bekaert, LLP will be presenting the audit at next month's Board Meeting.

Ms. Ellis reported the Employee Service Awards program will be held this afternoon at Downing Gross and will recognize achievements over the past year.

Ms. Powell reported on the progress of Marshall Courts Phase III and the Marshall Courts Recreation Center. The plan is to have this completed by the end of March for residents to move back in to their apartments. Work is being completed on the bid package for Phase IV to be advertised in April.

Ms. Wilds reported that she delivered the Board Resolutions of Appreciation to Oyster Point Rotary Club, Kinder Morgan, Dominion Coal Terminal and Village Bicycles. She thanked them for their continued support. Ms. Wilds also reported on the trip to Charlotte, NC for the Choice Neighborhoods planning grant process. Residents, community leaders, City and Authority staff toured revitalization projects there. This was hosted by the City of Charlotte and the Charlotte Housing Authority. In the proposed budget, the President has cut the CDBG, HOME and Choice Neighborhood Grants. Ms. Wilds will keep the Board apprised of the budget negotiations and what it means to the Authority. Until more is known about funding, the Authority is under a hiring freeze.

Other Business

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Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board, Chairman Knight adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.


Secretary-Treasurer