

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF GREENWICH**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**  
**January 22, 2020**  
*Minutes of the Meeting*

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the Town of Greenwich was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at the Agnes Morley Heights Community Room. The Chairman, Sam Romeo, called the meeting to order in public session at 5:30 p.m.

The Chairman declared that a quorum was present and directed the Assistant Secretary, Maria L. Morris, to act as secretary for the meeting.

Commissioners Present: Sam Romeo, Abelardo Curdumi, James Boutelle, Cathy Landy, Angelo Pucci

Commissioners Absent: Robert Simms Jr. and Vincent De Fina

Staff Present: Anthony Johnson, Terry Mardula, Derrick Bryant, Maria Morris, Teryl Reynolds, Sardis Solano, Laura Murphy, Ruth Young

Legal: Louis Pittocco

Public: Wayne Lewandoski, Yvonne Pollard, Joan Yankowski, Marcelle Sands, Carol Nuro, Ruth Gordon, Myrna Marsh, Leovigilda Frane, Barbara Maguire, Antonia Christiano, Linda Cooper, Hope Robinson, Neil Donnelly and Noreen Prata

The Chairman announced that he had information on becoming a census taker, if anyone was interested. Pay would be \$25 an hour. The cards and contact information would be on the table for them to pick up.

The Chairman welcomed the public and asked for any comments from residents. He reminded the public that this is a public meeting, not a public hearing and that he reserves the right whether or not to recognize speakers who are not residents of the Greenwich Housing Authority.

A resident asked if the Housing Authority would say a few words regarding the tenant that passed away and have a moment of silence in her honor.

The Chairman asked Maria Morris to say a few words since she was friendly with the resident. Ms. Morris stated that Ms. Deering was a beautiful person that had a very hard life. She had made friends with some of the residents in the building and was happy living here. There was a moment of silence for Elizabeth Ann Deering.

The Chairman reported that he has been in touch with the Town of Greenwich and has been appointed to a Special Committee to examine all crosswalks in the town. The Chairman spoke with the Chief of Police to install a raised hump crosswalk with lights that flash when pressed. Installation of flashing speed lights on both sides of the street will alert vehicles of their speed and people crossing the street. The Chairman asked for this process to be accelerated to avoid any more tragedies.

Discussion continued with concerns of the crosswalk - drivers speeding, drivers not stopping with the new signs posted on the road, the new signs being moved and more lighting needed. The Executive Director stated that residents need to be careful and not assume that drivers see them and will stop because they are in the crosswalk.

A resident reported that she noticed mail in front of one of her neighbor's door for 3-4 days. The Housing Manager asked what floor and apartment. The resident only knew the floor. The Chairman asked the Housing Manager to check before going home. One resident is in the hospital and another is on vacation.

Another resident asked if a shovel could be left at the front entrance of the building for the use of the residents. Last year there was a shovel available for their use which residents would return when done. There was also a request for salt to place around their vehicles during slippery conditions. The Executive Director stated that he will have a shovel placed at the front entrance for the residents. If the residents moved their vehicles, the maintenance staff would be able to plow the parking lot as done at other properties.

A resident wanted to say thank you to the reception office. She stated that the two ladies at the front are wonderful and always so helpful. The Chairman said he appreciates the acknowledgment.

The Chairman thanked the residents for coming and stated all concerns will be addressed.

The Chairman asked for approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board on December 4, 2019. On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes, were approved (Commissioner De Fina and Commissioner Simms abstained due to absence).

#### Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met on January 22, 2020. In attendance were Commissioner Curdumi, Commissioner Boutelle, the Executive Director, Deputy Director and Finance Director.

Commissioner Curdumi reported the Housing Authority's financial health is very good with a positive surplus. Quarry Knoll has a small deficit and Parsonage Cottage has a surplus. Commissioner Curdumi stated "2019 was a good year and everyone did a good job".

#### Development Committee:

The Chairman reported that the Development Committee did not formally meet this month, but speaks every day regarding all projects. The Chairman stated that he has been appointed as a new member of the CDBG committee taking over for the seat that Cathy Landy held.

The Chairman is asking for a new budget line item of \$25,000 for domestic abuse emergency housing from the Town of Greenwich. Commissioner Pucci stated that there is a need for more than one unit. The Chairman has spoken to the First Selectman, Chief of Police, and United Way and reported that he has received a lot of support and hopes to provide a critical necessity in the community.

The Chairman requested that the CDBG drawdowns be closed out before his next meeting with the CDBG committee. The Executive Director reported the following projects have been completed - boilers at Town Hall Annex, fire alarm system at Greenwich Close, fire alarm system at Armstrong Court and soffits and corbels at McKinney Terrace. The Executive Director explained that discussions and meetings continue to explore ways to fill the gap for funding for Armstrong Court 2.

The Executive Director stated the Housing Authority has received 5 VASH – Veterans Affairs Supported Housing vouchers and will work with West Haven to administer them.

Administrative Committee:

The Administrative Committee met on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. Commissioner Pucci reported that the final name change will be discussed in Executive Session.

Other Residences Committee:

The Other Residences Committee did not meet this month.

Executive Directors Report:

The Executive Director gave his report with the Development Committee Report.

Staff Reports:

The Deputy Director reported the Housing Authority will screen referrals from the West Haven VA Program for the VASH vouchers. West Haven will do the case management and will send applicants to the Housing Authority. The program will help veterans that are homeless to secure housing.

In discussion of waiting lists, the Deputy Director stated that when the lists do not have applicants that qualify for the local preference, vacancies have been filled with non-residents.

There was discussion of the relocation of the residents at Armstrong Court. The Executive Director stated that a few residents expressed the desire to be moved next to the same neighbors. This is not part of the relocation plan. A meeting will be held next week with the residents regarding the construction at Armstrong Court.

The Deputy Director stated we are progressing with the RAD application for Greenwich Close and we expect to receive approval soon and be in effect for January 2021.

Other/New Business:

None.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:54 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Maria L. Morris