

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HOUSING AUTHORITY

+ + +

OPEN SESSION

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FRIDAY,
AUGUST 25, 2017

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The Board met in the Tenth Floor Board Room at 1250 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 3:00 p.m., Neil Albert, Chairman, presiding.

Present:

NEIL ALBERT, Chairman
CHELSEA JOHNSON, Deputy General Counsel
KEN COUNCIL, Commissioner
SHELORE FISHER, Commissioner
JOSE ORTIZ GAUD, Commissioner
KEN GROSSINGER, Commissioner*
FRANK LANCASTER, Commissioner
NAKEISHA NEAL JONES, Commissioner
WILLIAM SLOVER, Commissioner
TERRI THOMPSON, Commissioner*

* Present via teleconference

C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

Call to Order - Chairman Albert. 3

Approval of the Minutes. 5

 Friday, August 4, 2017

 Monday, August 14, 2017

Closed for Executive Session 7

Reopen meeting 8

Resolution 17-12 to Approve the Appointment of
the Executive Director of the District of
Columbia Housing Authority 8

Adjournment.14

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 3:03 p.m.

3 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: So, welcome,
4 everyone. I will call the meeting to order. It
5 is, according to my clock, 3:01 p.m.

6 My name is Neil Albert. I'm the chair
7 of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing
8 Authority. I call this meeting to order.

9 This is a special board meeting of the
10 Housing Authority. It's being held today, August
11 25th, 2017, at 1250 H Street, N.W., Washington,
12 D.C. 20005.

13 As is our custom at every board
14 meeting, we ask that -- we welcome constituents'
15 input. There will be an opportunity to provide
16 that later on in this meeting; however, we ask
17 that you abide by certain rules of decorum.
18 Don't engage in any disruptive behavior, loud,
19 threatening or abusive language.

20 If you violate those rules, and I know
21 you would not, you will be asked to leave and
22 could be subject to arrest for violation of D.C.

1 laws of disorderly conduct.

2 We will give you an opportunity, as I
3 said earlier, to present your interests in the
4 matters before us today. So, thanks in advance
5 to anyone in the public for abiding by these
6 rules.

7 I'm going to ask our deputy general
8 counsel, Chelsea Johnson, to help me determine if
9 we have a quorum.

10 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Chairman.

11 Commissioner Albert.

12 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Present.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Council.

14 COMMISSIONER COUNCIL: Present.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Fisher.

16 COMMISSIONER FISHER: Here.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Grossinger.

18 COMMISSIONER GROSSINGER: Here.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Kenner.

20 Commissioner Neal Jones.

21 COMMISSIONER JONES: Present.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Lancaster.

1 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: Present.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Ortiz.

3 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Here.

4 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Slover.

5 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: Here.

6 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Thompson.

7 Commissioner Vann-Ghasri.

8 Chairman, you have a quorum. Seven
9 present. And eight counting Grossinger, who is
10 participating telephonically.

11 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Great. Thank you so
12 much.

13 I'd like to ask the commissioners to
14 consider the minutes of the August 4th and August
15 14th meetings.

16 I hope you had an opportunity to
17 review them before this meeting. I know our
18 deputy general counsel sent this to us in
19 advance.

20 Are there any questions or concerns
21 about the minutes?

22 (No questions.)

1 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: If not, can I get a
2 motion to approve these minutes en bloc?

3 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: So moved.

4 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Is there a second?

5 MS. JOHNSON: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: All in favor?

7 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

8 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Any opposed? Any
9 abstaining?

10 The ayes have it.

11 At this time, I recommend that the
12 Board move to close this meeting in executive
13 session to discuss the personnel matters pursuant
14 to D.C. Code 2-575(b)(10).

15 Is there any discussion by the Board
16 on closing this meeting at this time?

17 (No discussion.)

18 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: I now ask for a vote
19 regarding closing this portion of the meeting.

20 Is there a motion?

21 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: One moment,
22 please. This is going to be a closed meeting,

1 you say?

2 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: Is this
4 closed meeting open to the public?

5 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: We're going to go
6 into executive session and then we're going to
7 reopen at the end of the executive session.

8 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: And when will
9 the vote take place?

10 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: In open.

11 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: Okay. Thank
12 you.

13 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Good question.

14 Is there a motion to close?

15 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: Motion.

16 SPEAKER: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Moved and seconded.

18 All those in favor?

19 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

20 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Any opposed? Great.

21 The ayes have it.

22 (Whereupon, the proceedings went off

1 the record at 3:07 p.m. for executive session and
2 went back on the record at 3:50 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: All right. So, we
4 have concluded our discussion related to the
5 closed portion of this meeting. As such, this
6 meeting is now reopened.

7 So, for today's agenda, and for every
8 public meeting agenda, we allow the public to
9 provide any kind of comments on the
10 resolution/resolutions we are considering.

11 If there's anyone in the public, no
12 pressure, that would like to comment, you've got
13 a minute or two to do so.

14 Any interests?

15 Really? Aw, come on. Okay.

16 So, we'll now move to Resolution 17-12
17 to approve the appointment of the executive
18 director of the District of Columbia Housing
19 Authority.

20 And I think -- should I read the
21 resolution?

22 MS. JOHNSON: It's not necessary that

1 you read it on the record.

2 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Okay. Well, is
3 there any discussion from the Board on this
4 resolution?

5 (No discussion.)

6 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Is there a motion to
7 approve --

8 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: I move that
9 it be approved with the friendly amendment that
10 was made.

11 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Great. Is there a
12 second?

13 SPEAKER: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: All those in favor?

15 (CHORUS OF AYES.)

16 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Any opposed? Any
17 abstaining?

18 MS. JOHNSON: Can we do a roll call
19 vote?

20 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Let's do a roll call
21 vote.

22 MS. JOHNSON: All right. Thank you,

1 Chairman.

2 Chairman Albert?

3 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Yes.

4 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Council?

5 COMISSIONER COUNCIL: Yes.

6 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Fisher?

7 COMMISSIONER FISHER : Yes.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Grossinger?

9 Commissioner Kenner?

10 Commissioner Neal Jones?

11 COMMISSIONER JONES: Yes.

12 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Lancaster?

13 COMMISSIONER LANCASTER: With the

14 friendly amendments that been made to this, I say

15 yes.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Ortiz?

17 COMMISSIONER ORTIZ: Yes.

18 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Slover?

19 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: Yes, as amended.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Thompson?

21 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Yes.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Commissioner Vann-

1 Ghasri?

2 All right. Chairman, you have eight
3 yes. Your motion and resolution is approved.

4 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Thank you very much.

5 So, the next Board of Commissioners'
6 meeting will be --

7 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: Can I make one
8 request --

9 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: -- to the people
11 that came --

12 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: -- can we maybe
14 tell them who we just approved?

15 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Yeah. No,
16 absolutely.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: I thought you guys
19 just came here to get away from the office. No?

20 Okay. So, we have approved the
21 appointment of Tyrone Garrett as the executive
22 director of the Housing Authority.

1 So, Tyrone currently is the executive
2 director of the Long Branch, New Jersey Housing
3 Authority.

4 We'll send out a press release a
5 little later with a little bit more details on
6 it.

7 All right. Who do you guys represent
8 or what organization do you --

9 PARTICIPANT: I'm at the D.C. Bar Pro
10 Bono Center, but I'm active in the Housing Right
11 to Counsel Project.

12 So, I mentor a lot of pro bono
13 attorneys who represent D.C. Housing Authority
14 residents --

15 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Very nice.

16 PARTICIPANT: -- in landlord-tenant
17 court, yeah. And I coordinate a coalition of
18 lawyers and organizers and community members who
19 are trying to get more affordable housing in
20 D.C., called the D.C. Right to Housing
21 Initiative.

22 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: Great. So, I was

1 talking to Patty Fugere a couple of weeks ago
2 about ways in which the Housing Authority can
3 serve the community better.

4 She suggested, and I said "yes, that,"
5 you know, "that we have regular meetings." What
6 I told her is I can't meet with every individual
7 advocacy group, so -- I don't know who
8 coordinates -- we do have a representative from
9 the advocacy community --

10 COMMISSIONER SLOVER: I go to them.

11 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: -- on the Board.
12 They invited me, too. So, just let me know when
13 it --

14 (Comments off record.)

15 CHAIRMAN ALBERT: You know, I've
16 always had the life as an advocate, so I can't
17 get out of that role. Anyhow, well, thanks for
18 coming. We really appreciate that.

19 So, the next Board of Commissioners'
20 meeting will be held on Wednesday, September
21 13th, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. at the District of
22 Columbia Housing Authority.

1 The address is 1133 North Capitol
2 Street, N.E. on the second floor. With that, we
3 are adjourned. Thank you all so much.

4 (Whereupon, at 3:55 o'clock p.m. the
5 meeting was adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Special Board Meeting

Before: DCHA

Date: 08-25-17

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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