

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Committee on Resident Services
Executive Director's Conference Room
Thursday, April 27, 2017
(DRAFT)**

Commissioner Aquarius Vann-Ghasri, Chairman
Commissioner Kenneth Council
Commissioner Bill Slover
Commissioner Nakeisha Neal Jones

**COMMITTEE
COMMISSIONER
MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Commissioner Frank Lancaster
Commissioner Shelore Fisher

**COMMITTEE
COMMISSIONERS
MEMBER ABSENT**

Commissioner Clarence Mobley

**OTHER
COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT**

Chairman Vann-Ghasri opened the meeting at 12:20 pm and read the profile of the Committee on Resident Services.

OPENING REMARKS

The minutes of the meeting of March 30, 2017 were presented and discussed. Commissioner Council still had a question about the numbers at Ft. Dupont that don't add up regarding total units counted for Resident Participation Funds. Since the deadline is tomorrow, Mr. Bovelie said he would get back to him today. Commissioner Neal Jones raised concerns about the minutes not reflecting the point of view expressed about the Resident Councils and bylaws. Commissioner Vann Ghasri asked Ken Slaughter, General Counsel to respond. She also suggested that the next Retreat might include Ms. Patricia Gracyalny, attorney, formerly of the General Counsel's office who did an excellent job of explaining things about the Resident Councils and bylaws.

**MINUTES:
MARCH 30, 2017**

Mr. Fashad Tyler, Resident Relations Liaison presented information about the upcoming election. The dates are Wednesday, June 28 and Thursday, June 29, 2017. HUD allows for a board of leaders at each property with officers identified. The question was asked if Roberts Rules of Order apply. The answer was yes. Additionally, do any resident councils have parliamentarians; is it in writing so that they understand they can have additional officers? Have residents been notified about the election? The answer was no. Have you selected a place for the Retreat? The answer was no. A request was made to select a venue with people who are physically challenged in mind. Wheelchairs and walkers and canes are to be a primary consideration. And also attention to special dietary needs to be part of the planning. A question about medications was asked. Mr. Tyler said there is

**BRIEFING/DISCUSSION
THE UPCOMING
ELECTION**

a form that is sent to all participants so the list of medications can be provided.

He also addressed the issue of the Independent Third Party Monitor. He stated that the contracts have arrived and a decision will be made by April 28, 2017. Once a selection is made, details will be sent out.

THIRD PARTY MONITOR

The Retreat is planned for later in the year, tentative Tuesday, October 10 to Friday, October 13, 2017. This is an opportunity for the newly elected leaders to learn about their roles and responsibilities in a structured, closed and comfortable setting. The questions was asked why wait until October. And answer was because there are many interruptions in the summer months with travel and other summer activities. The suggestion was made that perhaps we might consider a Friday to Sunday event to accommodate those people who work who are elected. Another suggestion was to have a written document for policies to create a smooth transition of officers.

THE RETREAT- LOCATION & OTHER DETAILS

Mr. Brian Harris, Workforce Development Manager presented the information. He said one Navigator is assigned to several properties to help Resident Councils throughout the year. The question was asked about the process. The answer was to help with resident council activities. A job description was requested. Two were provided before the meeting ended. One detailed the Community Navigator (Senior and Disabled Services) and the other detailed the Community Navigator (Individual and Family Services). These are non-exempt full time positions, and require a valid driver's license since they have field responsibility. They report to the Manager, Service Coordination. There was a question about why they did not report to Ms. Hampton. After some discussion Nathan Bovelie said that the Deputy to Ms. Hampton is a vacant position that they are trying to fill.

NAVIGATORS

Commissioner Vann Ghasri spoke about the Jack Kemp Foundation as a backdrop to the discussion about the summer plans. Mr. Ron Fisher, Program Manager for the Family Self Sufficiency presented the information. He spoke in detail about the different programs available that provide employment and life skills opportunities. Nathan Bovelie noted that though there is a specific GPA requirement to participate in the Do Your Best Program, a few slots are set aside for youngsters who don't meet the GPA target in an effort to leave no one out. Ron Fisher spoke briefly about a new position that is being created, Youth Services Special Initiatives Coordinator. A little history about the Do Your BEST program was shared noting the Ms. Toya Taylor who participated in 1997 was available to be skyped in to this year to add a little update and historical reference to the current program. The availability of applications, recruiting and returning participants were all subjects discussed.

PLANS FOR THE SUMMER: STATUS OF DO YOUR BEST PROGRAM

Byron Pugh, Partnerships and Community Relations Coordinator, spoke about additional plans for this summer. Awards from United Way and possible additional funding from the DC government. The United Way gave 39 awards. One was to DCHA. Commissioner Vann Ghasri asked

about Project REBOOT and how to get 13 computers at Potomac Gardens. Mr. Pugh stated that Project Reboot is on site at Frederick Douglass Community Center with limited inventory. They have not started selling to the public yet. They will begin to work to refurbish 100 devices that were donated recently for sales beginning in June. Nathan Bovelie is checking about computers for properties.

Hannah Koerner, Section 3 Coordinator spoke briefly.

Councilmember Council spoke about several issues which were not on the record.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:52 pm.

**COMMISSIONERS'
ISSUES**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND ADJOURNMENT**

DRAFT