

**Asheville Housing Authority
Commission Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2016**

I. Work Session

The work session was held at the Central Office at 5pm. The following Commissioners were present: Chair Lewis Isaac, Member Raynetta Waters, Member Jennifer Pickering, and Member James Canavan.

Open session: Lewis Isaac introduced guests from the City of Asheville: Cathy Ball, Barbara Mee, and Ellen McKinnon. The City is working on the River Arts District Transportation Improvement Plan (RADTIP). They have received federal funds and are matching that investment with City funds to complete several road, sidewalk and greenway construction projects throughout the District. The City is looking to have a permanent easement along the backside of Hillcrest at the bottom of the 40-foot wooded embankment behind the development. This area does not have any impact on the buildings or actively used spaces in Hillcrest. The City is also planning to redesign the intersection of Livingston and Depot streets, for which they will need a temporary construction easement. After construction, this project will not encroach on HACA land in the existing Livingston Heights development. These two items have been independently appraised at \$25,675.00 and \$314.00 respectively. These amounts appear to be reasonable based on the limited impact of these projects on HACA property.

HACA Board Members requested that the City look to improve access to the River Arts District for residents of Hillcrest and make specific efforts to develop employment opportunities for HACA residents as part of this multimillion dollar construction project. They also asked that the condition of Livingston Street inside the Livingston Heights development be assessed and improved concurrently with the RADTIP.

II. Regular Meeting - Call to order

Chair Isaac called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at **5:11 pm on March 23, 2016, at Pisgah View Apartments, 1 Granada Street, Asheville, NC 28806**. Brooke Smith conducted the roll call. The following Commissioners were present: Chair Lewis Isaac, Member Raynetta Waters, Member Jennifer Pickering, and Member James Canavan.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

James Canavan made a motion, seconded by **Raynetta Waters**, to approve the minutes. The Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes of **January 27, 2016**.

IV. Bills and Communications

Gene Bell stated that the Annual Easter event with Charlotte Street Computers was held last week, and as always, it was a huge success. Jennifer Mayer, owner and CEO of Charlotte Street Computers, stated that over 230 children came out and met the Easter Bunny and participated in an Easter egg hunt. Ms. Mayer stated that she is thankful to be able to do this event. Gene Bell also presented about the Bartlett laundry celebration, which took place this afternoon and celebrated the new laundry facilities at Bartlett Arms. Elaine Edwards, Bartlett Arms resident, stated that she is very proud of this. Gene Bell thanked the staff for coordinating this. Gene Bell stated that Terry Bellamy was recognized by the Asheville Citizen Times as Asheville's Most Influential Woman.

V. Report of the Secretary

a) Asheville Housing Properties

Noele Tackett reported the monthly Asheville Housing Properties occupancy submitted with the board package

b) Asheville Housing Vouchers

Brandy Woodard reported monthly Asheville Housing Vouchers occupancy submitted with the board package

c) Income/Expense Report

Lenell Wyche summarized the bottom line of the four key budgets submitted with the board package.

d) Residents Council Report

No comment

VI. New Business

- 1. Consideration of approval of authorization for the CEO and Board Chair to execute all necessary documents granting a revised right of way Riverside Drive for all purposes of the RADTIP project, with the understanding that the Housing Authority and the City will work together to reach out to Housing Authority residents with the intention of filling as many jobs on this project as possible with residents.**

David Nash stated that this is a small piece of land behind Hillcrest on River Road that the City is going to build a retaining wall and bike path on the property. It does not impact the operations of our property in any way. In the Work Session, Board Members mentioned a desire to ensure that as many jobs as possible in connection with this project are offered to our residents. Jennifer Pickering stated that there were community meetings hosted by the City, where residents were able to ask questions and get information.

James Canavan made a motion, seconded by **Jennifer Pickering**, to authorize the CEO and Board Chair to execute all necessary documents granting a revised right of way

Riverside Drive for all purposes of the RADTIP project, with the understanding that the Housing Authority and the City will work together to reach out to Housing Authority residents with the intention of filling as many jobs on this project as possible with residents.

The Board voted as follows:

AYE

NAY

Mr. Lewis Isaac
Ms. Raynetta Waters
Ms. Jennifer Pickering
Mr. James Canavan

The Chair declared the motion carried.

2. Consideration of approval of authorization for the CEO and Board Chair to execute all necessary documents granting a temporary construction easement for a roundabout and other street/sidewalk improvements at the intersection of Livingston and Depot Streets.

David Nash stated that the location of this construction project is right outside of the main entrance to Livingston and at the corner of the Grant Center. The City is asking HACA to approve a temporary construction easement in order to put in a roundabout, which will increase the pedestrian and bicycle safety. The Housing Authority has also asked that the City identify funding to repave Livingston Street inside the Livingston Heights development concurrently with this project.

Raynetta Waters made a motion seconded by **James Canavan**, to authorize the CEO and Board Chair to execute all necessary documents granting a temporary construction easement for a roundabout and other street/sidewalk improvements at the intersection of Livingston and Depot Streets.

The Board voted as follows:

AYE

NAY

Mr. Lewis Isaac
Ms. Raynetta Waters
Ms. Jennifer Pickering
Mr. James Canavan

The Chair declared the motion carried.

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. Public Comment

Elaine Edwards, Bartlett Arms resident, has noticed that where the River Arts District is there are several pedestrian crosswalks. She has asked the City several times for one of these crosswalks from Livingston to Green's. She asked if there is any way that HACA can get involved. Gene Bell stated that he will ask if that will be part of this whole project.

Angela James, Pisgah View resident, asked what Board governs the Residents Council. Gene Bell stated that they govern themselves. Gene Bell stated that he will give her the Residents Council meeting schedule.

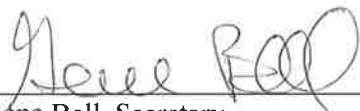
IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.



Lewis Isaac, Chair

ATTEST:



Gene Bell, Secretary