

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. City Council Chambers & City of Pittsburgh YouTube channel.

September 1 2022

Members Present: Lena Andrews, Oliver Beasley, Joanna Deming, Mark Masterson, Paul Spradley, Sonya Tilghman, Derrick Tillman, Adrienne Walnoha, Kellie Ware (Chair)

Staff Present: Jahd Burns, Breanna Benjamin, Rae Ann Driscoll, Donna Freeman, Victoria Jackson, Derek Kendall-Morris, Bailey Knapp, Evan Miller, Brett Morgan, Niklas Persson, Melinda Ward

A. Roll Call

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2022 board meeting as written and previously distributed. The motion carried.

B. Public Comment – There was no public comment

C. Housing Opportunity Fund Development Program Presentation

Evan Miller presented information about the For-Sale Development Program and the Rental Gap Program. Information about the current structure of the programs, their level of utilization to date, current limitations, and potential policy changes for the future were presented to the board for consideration. Ed Nusser from City of Bridges Community Land Trust presented about their experiences utilizing the For-Sale Development Program. Lena Andrews and Derrick Tillman (HOF Advisory Board Members) also discussed how their experiences working on affordable housing developments and how these programs are vital to those efforts.

D. Housing Stabilization Program Guideline Changes

Derek Kendall-Morris presented information about proposed changes to the guidelines for the Housing Stabilization Program that were being recommended by URA staff. The specific changes to the guidelines were:

- Increase the amount of assistance available per household from \$3,000 to \$6,000
- Increase the number of consecutive months an applicant can receive assistance from 3 months to 6 months
- Decrease the allowable timeframe between applications from the same household from 5 years to 3 years

Paul Spradley made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Housing Stabilization Program guidelines with a caveat that the guidelines will be re-evaluated for effectiveness and program stability in 2023. The motion passed.

E. URA Administrative Updates

- The HOF Annual Allocation Plan Update – Jahd Burns provided an update on the 2023 HOF Annual Allocation Plan process. Jahd informed the Advisory Board that the Annual Allocation Plan Community survey was extended until Friday, September 9th.
- Derek Kendall-Morris announced an extension to the Hilltop Alliance’s Program administration contract for the Homeowner Assistance Program. \$500,000 was added to the Hilltop Alliance’s contract so they can continue to serve clients. The Hilltop Alliance’s total contract will now be \$1,600,000
- Bailey Knapp announced that the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation would be becoming a new Program Administrator for the Homeowner Assistance Program.

F. Advisory Board Administrative Items

G. Program Expenditures and Updates

Jahd Burns discussed programming expenditures.

- Down Payment And Closing Cost Assistance
- Legal Assistance Program
- For Sale Development and Rental Gap Programs
- Housing Stabilization Program
- Homeowners Assistance Program

H. Announcements

The next HOF Advisory Board Meeting is Thursday, October 1, 2022, at 2:00 pm. It will be held in City Council Chambers with the option to attend virtually as well.

I. Adjournment