

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

August 4, 2022

Members Present: Lena Andrews, Jamil Bey, Joanna Deming, Knowledge Build-Hudson, Mark Masterson, Paul Spradley, Sonya Tilghman, Derrick Tillman, Adrienne Walnoha, Kellie Ware (Chair), and Megan Winters

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, Jennifer Wilhelm

A. Roll Call

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2022 board meeting as written and previously distributed. The motion carried.

B. Public Comment

C. East Liberty Blvd. For Sale Housing Project Predevelopment Loan

Evan Miller presented information about the project which would create 18 new construction for-sale units, 6 of which will be affordable to buyers at 80% AMI. Malik Bankston also provided additional context and background on the project and how it fits into the comprehensive housing strategy for the community.

- Knowledge Build-Hudson made a motion to Authorize entering into a For Sale Development Program predevelopment loan agreement with East Liberty Development, Incorporated in the amount of \$200,000. Mark Masterson seconded the motion. The motion was approved
- Knowledge Build-Hudson made a motion to Authorize a waiver of For Sale Development Program guidelines to exceed the predevelopment loan maximum amount of \$100,000 where the project occurs on multiple properties. Adrienne Walnoha seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

D. Housing Stabilization Program Proposed Changes Discussion

Derek Kendall-Morris presented information about a planned upcoming RFP that will be released by the Department of Human Services (DHS). The goal of the RFP will be to better coordinate and strategically utilize their continuum of eviction prevention funding which includes the Housing Stabilization Program currently funded by the Housing Opportunity Fund.

The proposed RFP would move all eviction prevention programming administered by DHS to a model where one lead agency would be providing services through the program instead of multiple agencies.

The topic was opened for discussion and advisory board members expressed general support for the stated goals of the RFP while also voicing concerns about limiting the ability of smaller agencies to participate and concerns about the capacity of one lead provider to meet the needs of the clients seeking eviction prevention services.

E. URA Administrative Updates

- The HOF Annual Allocation Plan Update – Jahd Burns provided an update on the 2023 HOF Annual Allocation Plan Community Survey process including information on upcoming community meetings
- Homeowner Assistance Program Update – Derek Kendall-Morris provided an update on the Homeowner Assistance Program which is now closed until 2023.
- Legal Assistance Program Update – Derek Kendall-Morris confirmed that the contracts for the current Legal Assistance Service Providers would be extended at the URA's August board meeting on 8/11/2022

F. Advisory Board Administrative Items

- Knowledge Build-Hudson announced that this would be his last HOF Advisory Board meeting
- Paul Spradley volunteered to take over leadership of the Advisory Board's Marketing & Outreach Committee with Knowledge's departure
- It was also announced that a replacement chair for the Fair Housing Committee will also be needed with Knowledge's departure

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, September 1, 2022, at 2:00 pm. It will be held in City Council Chambers with the option to attend virtually as well.

I. Adjournment