

East Windsor Housing Authority
Special Meeting May 30, 2013

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Legassie. Present were: Chair Legassie, Commissioner Percoski, Commissioner LeBorious, Commissioner DeSousa, and Commissioner Burnham.

2. Public Comment.

Camella Neilson, President of the Tenants' Association.

"I was not called or notified of this meeting to night. I really feel that I should be informed."

Viola # 25,

"I've been coming almost a year. There used to be informal sessions for tenant to express their opinions ask questions. All we've been getting here is sessions where your dotting I's and crossing t's. We've had two hour meetings with no outcome"

Natalie

"I don't understand, you call a meeting but you can't tell us why? Commissioner Burnham responded that they will try to develop a process to address tenant concerns under agenda item 4 Policies and Pcedures.

Staple #46

"None of us were notified and I don't know why, I think we have the right to come."

Jean Stiffles, Vice President of Tenant Association

Every week we come and we have questions and we can't get our questions answered. Isn't there some way we can get out questions answered?'

Commissioner DeSousa responded that as Commissioner Burnham indicated a few moments ago, the Commissioners are going to discuss this issue in Policy and Procedure an upcoming agenda topic in tonight's meeting.

Cherrie Martin #84

“The meetings have spiraled out of control over the past several months when some of the tenants started griping their complaints here in an attempt to make our ED look bad. They would only give one side of the issues and ask you to make decisions based on their presentations. And it spiraled out of control from there. Instead of going to the office as they were supposed to, they took advantage of this open format opportunity as a means to blind side the Director. It was done on purpose and has spiraled out of control and we are not happy with it. We get the feeling the Board is contentious in its tone and is not hearing what we are saying.”

Viola #25

“There have been issues that have fallen through the cracks that we have asked this Board to address. You tell us you’ll talk about it next meeting and then it never gets brought up again. We are not happy with what is going on at all.”

Charlene Kraft #57

“I notice that this is a smaller group and I feel that we are being listened to we are listening to you and that is how our meetings always were. We come to the meetings to hear what is going on, we don’t know what questions we want to ask at the start of the meeting because you talk about things and then we have questions. So if we can’t ask questions now, we have to wait a whole month? Because we don’t know what will be said by the Board.”

Commissioner LeBorious- Schedule an agenda item for Tenant Association

Natalie #68

“Office closes at 2:00 so there isn’t anyone to take a call after 2:00”

Chairwoman Legassie – Perhaps we can take Public Comment at the end of the meeting.

3. Executive Session - Commissioner Burnham motioned to delay agenda item #3. Executive Session, to the end of the meeting. Commissioner LeBorious seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Review of Policies and Procedures

Commissioner Burnham noted that as this is a relatively new Board, we need a vehicle to review and become familiar with the Policies of the Authority. After discussion among the Commissioners, Commissioner DeSousa suggested the Board review one or two policies of the East Windsor Housing Authority each meeting.

Commissioner Burnham asked, how are we going to handle the questions and issues that come up in public session? There was discussion between the Commissioners. Commissioner LeBoriosis made a motion to add a permanent agenda item for Tenant Association Presentation, to be heard immediately after Public Comment. Seconded by Commissioner DeSousa, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Burnham made a motion to establish a form of communication through the Secretary of the Board to answer the questions presented through public comment. Commissioner Percoski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Election of Officers for Board Vacancies.

Commissioner DeSousa made a motion to elect the following slate of Officers: Vice Chair John Burnham, Assistant Treasurer Betsy LeBoriosis, and Secretary Marie DeSousa. Commissioner Percoski seconded and the motion was duly authorized.

3. Executive Session

Commissioner Burnham made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 7:40. Commissioner LeBoriosis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Percoski made a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. Commissioner Burnham seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Adjournment Commissioner Percoski made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting , Commissioner Burnham seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sandra Desrosiers
Recording Secretary.

FINAL