



## BROWARD HOUSING COUNCIL MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Broward Housing Council was held on October 26, 2012, commencing at 10:05a.m., at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC), located at 2650 Sistrunk Boulevard, Seminar Room 2, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

**ROLL CALL:** Roll call was conducted by Ms. Elizabeth Kersting.

**Council Members Present:**

Louis Wexler, Chair	Paul Figg
Monica Navarro, Vice Chair	Patricia Good
Robert Baldwin	Caryl Hattan
Cynthia Chambers	Richard Lemack
Innocent Chinweze	Lisa Vecchi
Frances Esposito	

**Council Members Absent:**

George Castrataro	Mercedes Nunez
Richard Barkett	Frank Schnidman
Ann Deibert	Marcia Barry-Smith

**Staff:**

Angela Chin  
Patrice Eichen  
Elizabeth Kersting  
Michael Wright

**Guest:**

Aaron Humphrey, Law Offices of George Castrataro

### **I. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 24, 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

***MOTION:** It was moved by Ms. Caryl Hattan and seconded by Ms. Monica Navarro to approve the Minutes of the Broward Housing Council meeting of August 24, 2012 as submitted. The Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.*

### **II. Chair's Report: Commissioner Lois Wexler**

Chair Wexler introduced and welcomed Councilmember Caryl Hattan with the Town of Davie. Councilmember Hattan represents the category of Officer of the Broward League of Cities. Councilmember replaced Mayor Lori Moseley with the City of Miramar.

### **III. Director's Report: Mr. Ralph Stone**

#### **A. Status update on the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Scope of Work**

Mr. Stone reported that \$25,000 was budgeted to contract with an outside consultant to begin this initiative from the Housing Council's work program. He stated that Ms. Rosemarie Fallon who was transferred from the Planning and Redevelopment Division to the Housing Finance and Community Development Division has been assigned as the project manager to prepare the Scope of Work. The draft Scope of Work will be presented to the Council at the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **B. Status update on the Affordable Housing Newsletter**

Mr. Stone informed members that the former website specialist did not pass the probationary period and was let go in September. He stated that Ms. Vena Paylo currently employed with the Broward County Cultural Division has been hired and will start on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

He noted that the importance of this quarterly newsletter would be to initiate public awareness locally and nationwide. Mr. Stone stated that he expects to have the first quarterly newsletter electronically distributed by December 2012. *Mr. Innocent Chinweze and Ms. Lisa Vecchi entered the meeting at 10:10am.*

Ms. Esposito made reference to the October 23, 2012 public workshop held by the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) regarding their recommendation to the City of Fort Lauderdale Commission to adopt a mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance. This created a discussion among Council Members. Mr. Wright and Ms. Vecchi both attended the workshop and provided an update in terms of what was discussed regarding pros and cons of implementing the zoning initiative. Chair Wexler stated that in order for the Housing Council to take a position and support this initiative they will need additional information. She requested that Mr. Stone and Ms. Chin obtain background information that was presented at the workshop, and include this information in the Housing Council's meeting packet for the December 14, 2012 meeting. Ms. Vecchi stated she had copies of the PowerPoint presentation and will provide them to Ms. Chin. *Ms. Patricia Good entered the meeting at 10:20am.*

### **IV. Old Business**

Mr. Wright provided a status update on the final report prepared by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH). He reported that members of the NAEH have been meeting with several community groups and stakeholders since October 2011. They have completed the community input phase of the project and will begin writing their report. Once a draft report is finalized, it will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners in January 2013, to initiate feedback. Based upon the feedback received, the NAEH will conduct a Charrette (a public forum) in March 2013 incorporating Broward County's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness with the new federal strategic plans and rules.

Mr. Wright provided an update on the Continuum of Care (CoC) program. He stated that there was a shift taking place from the prior transitional housing to Rapid Re-housing. He indicated that in the last few months, funding for CoC increased from \$120,000 to \$1.2 million through several resources: the Jim Moran Foundation, the State and Broward County's Emergency Solutions Grant, and funding via the Broward County Family Success Administration's Housing Options Program.

In addition, Mr. Wright mentioned a new project for Broward County that would include collaboration led by the City of Fort Lauderdale with the Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc., Broward Sheriff's Office, Task Force For Ending Homelessness and Fort Lauderdale's Housing Authority, along

with other community stakeholders and providers targeting a “New Permanent Housing Bonus Project” (Bonus Project) servicing 20 to 30 homeless individuals and families located in Fort Lauderdale. *Ms. Cynthia Chambers entered the meeting at 10:35am.*

Chair Wexler mentioned a new project that is being developed by the Broward Sheriff’s Office (BSO). She stated that BSO is putting together a taskforce primarily with the court system and a not-for-profit agency(ies) in order to identify a less expensive alternative other than jail, to combat the incarcerated homeless population, particularly those with misdemeanors. Chair explained that due to not having the \$25.00 fee to bond out of jail, it cost taxpayers approximately \$118 a day to house the incarcerated homeless population.

Vice Chair Navarro stated that as a new member of the Homeless Initiative Partnership (HIP) board, she can appreciate the integration that is occurring among all the stakeholders involved in the bonus project and HUD application process. She provided some details on how the bonus project would actually afford Broward the opportunity to earn additional points on the application process so that they have a greater likelihood of getting additional resources on the federal level. She spoke about resources that were provided on a local level, leverage of funds, and the importance of the new homeless point in time count data. Chair Wexler commended Vice Chair Navarro for volunteering to be a liaison to the HIP Board and requested that a report be forthcoming between her and Mr. Wright so that the Housing Council is kept apprised of any new developments.

## **V. New Business**

The Housing Council’s proposed meeting dates and time for 2013 was discussed.

<b>DATES</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Friday, February 22	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC
Friday, April 26	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC
Friday, June 28	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC
Friday, August 23	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC
Friday, October 25	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC
Friday, December 13* *2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	10:00 a.m.	AARLCC

*MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Lisa Vecchi and seconded by Ms. Patricia Good to accept the proposed meeting dates and time for 2013. Motion was approved by unanimous voice votes.*

*Mr. Paul Figg entered the meeting at 10:45am.*

## **VI. Informational Only**

Ms. Good informed members that the School Board will be having their organizational meeting in November. There will be a composition of new members assigned to the School Board, which means that there may be a change of appointee for representation on the Housing Council Board. She will keep the board apprised.

Mr. Figg informed the Council of The Federal Trade Commission's nationwide crackdown of mortgage modification and foreclosure relief assistance scams. He provided details of various nationwide scams that are taking place. He also informed them that he was assigned to be a part of the taskforce for this initiative. Members will be apprised of this ongoing process.

## **VII. Next Housing Council Meeting**

Friday, December 14, 2012  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
AARLCC – Seminar Room 2

## **VII. Adjournment**

There being no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.

**Disclosure:** The above captioned Minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To hear the full meeting, a compact disk of the meeting (#DR- 12-SC-179.) can be provided after 24 hour notice to the Document Control and Minutes Section at 954-357-4900.