

SUMMARY MINUTES

BROWARD HOUSING COUNCIL Friday, August 26, 2022 10:00 AM Broward County Government Center, Rm. 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Board Members Present

Ajibola Balogun	Marcia Barry-Smith, Chair	Ann Deibert
Frances Esposito	Caryl Hattan, Vice-Chair	Christopher Krzemien
Gino Moro	Nathan Perlmutter	Ralph Stone
Teneshia Taylor	Lisa Vecchi	Beverly Williams

Board Members Absent

Beth Daly

County Staff

Jo Sesodia, UPD	Annika Ashton, CAO	Gretchen Cassini, MAP
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Other Attendees

Roderick Newkirk, Resident	Lisa Wight, Broward County School Board	Tashauna Wilson
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1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Chair Marcia Barry-Smith. Roll call was taken by Jo Sesodia who confirmed that a quorum was present.

2) Approval of the April 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Caryl Hattan moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ajibola Balogun seconded. All in favor.

3) Presentation of 2022 Affordable Housing Needs Assessment Update

The latest update to the Broward County Affordable Housing Needs Assessment was presented by Dr. Ned Murray, AICP, Associate Director at the Jorge M. Perez Metropolitan Center at Florida Atlantic University, whose team prepared the document. The Needs Assessment update will be scheduled for acceptance by the Board of County Commissioners in October.

4) Presentation of Broward County Mobility Advancement Program (MAP)

Gretchen Cassini, MAP Administrator, presented *Mobility Advancement Project Update* regarding Broward County's 30-year, one percent surtax to fund transportation improvements, approved by voters in November 2018. The project is expected to generate \$1.6B and \$2.5B in federal and state subsidies. About \$10.6M in surtax revenue was allocated for a Transit Systemwide Study to be completed in late 2023.

5) Presentation of Broward County Tenant's Bill of Rights

Jo Sesodia, UPD, reported that two new Ordinances were adopted by the County Commission in June regarding fair notice to tenants and Tenant's Bill of Rights. Landlords are required to provide 60 days' notice for rent increases of 5% or more, late fees, terminations, and tenants' rights. The notification must be in writing and applies to short term, permanent rentals only. Effective September 1, a copy of the Tenant's Bill of Rights, which addresses issues such as discrimination and minimum housing code, must be provided by the landlord to the tenant prior to issuance of a dwelling unit. A new Renter's webpage is available which also includes housing resources. Copies of a "Know Your Rights" poster were provided to members.

6) Advisory Board Quorum and Ethics Training

Annika Ashton, Deputy County Attorney, is the new County Attorney assigned to the Housing Council along with attorney Karina Rodriguez. She stated that today's training will focus on Gifts and Public Records and a follow up training will address conflicting employment or contractual conflicts. Ms. Ashton discussed the importance of an in-person quorum which is required to conduct advisory board business. Per the County Charter, the BHC must meet at least six (6) times a year and a quorum consists of a majority of appointed members. The County's gift regulations are more stringent than the State and acceptance of anything of value from a contractor or outside party is discouraged. The State's Sunshine Law requires publicly noticed meetings that are open to the public. This applies towards discussion of advisory board business between two (2) or more advisory boards members. The discussion of County business via text or person email is also discouraged.

7) Homeless Initiative Partnership (HIP)/Continuum of Care (CofC) Administrator's Report: Rebecca McGuire

Dr. McGuire reported that the HIP is being restructured as a new County Division dealing with exclusively with homelessness. Other items of interest:

- HIP purchased an app to serve as a digital replacement of the BSO homeless guide and will be available to all service providers.
- "Broward for Homeless" offers real time access to services with a Live Help feature that connects the user with a housing crisis hotline.
- "Broward Home Alone" will be unveiled on September 15 at Nova Southeastern Library. This focuses on a landlord recruitment campaign which provides \$500 to landlords accepting difficult to house tenants and \$50 when added to multiple listing site. The goal of the 3-5 year project is increasing participation by 1,000-1,500 landlords.
- "Homeless Information System" is a database of anyone who has experienced homelessness. The County signed an agreement with the School Board to submit referrals for homeless kids and may be used by health care systems with patient discharge issues.
- Community Court is starting in Pompano Beach and general funds were allocated by County for homelessness abatement.
- Rapid Rehousing continues but low supply of affordable units is a deterrent.

8) Chair's Report

None.

9) Director's Report

Jo Sesodia, UPD Director, reminded members to mark their calendars for the BHC Workshop at 9 AM, Wed., November 9 via WebEx. Any members interested in serving as a panelist should let her know.

10) New Business

Election of Officers: Per County Charter and the BHC bylaws, a Chair and Vice-Chair are elected annually for a one (1) year term.

Motion: Ajibola Balogun moved to nominate Marcia Barry-Smith as BHC Chair. Seconded by Beverly Williams. All in favor.

Motion: Ajibola Balogun moved to nominate Caryl Hattan as BHC Vice-Chair. Seconded by Beverly Williams. All in favor.

No others were nominated for either office; nominations were closed. The Chair and Vice Chair were reelected unanimously.

11) Old Business

None.

12) Public Comments

Roderick Newkirk, resident, addressed the members about his experience with obtaining affordable housing in Broward County via rapid rehousing and emergency housing vouchers. He also expressed his appreciation for the BHC members. Chair Barry-Smith requested his contact information and staff will follow up.

BHC member Beverly Williams announced that today is her last meeting. The Broward League of Cities will appoint a new representative to the BHC on September 1, 2022. The members expressed their appreciation for her service.

13) Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

14) Next Meeting: Friday, October 28, 2022 at 10 AM, Broward County Government Center, Room 301, located at 115 S Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Disclosure: The above captioned minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting, approved summary minutes, or any presentation or handout materials, submit a public records request through the Urban Planning Division, 954 357 8695.