

## SUMMARY MINUTES

### BROWARD HOUSING COUNCIL Friday, August 25, 2023 - 10:00 AM Broward County Government Center East, Rm. 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL

#### Board Members Present

Ajibola Balogun	Marcia Barry-Smith, Chair	Michele Collie
Beth Daly	Frances Esposito	Parnell Joyce
Christopher Krzemien	Commissioner Hazelle P. Rogers	Teneshia Taylor

#### Board Members Absent

Caryl Hattan, Vice-Chair	Gino Moro	Nathan Perlmutter
Ralph Stone	Lisa Vecchi	

#### County Staff

Jo Sesodia, UPD	Annika Ashton, CAO	Sue Carrano, UPD
Keith Darby, UPD	Sue Fejes, HFD	Faline Moeses, EMD

#### Other Attendees

Pablo J. Calvo, United Way of Broward

#### 1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Chair Marcia Barry-Smith. Roll call was taken by Sue Carrano who confirmed that a quorum was present.

Chair Barry-Smith welcomed new member Debra Hixon, who is filling the School Board vacancy on the BHC.

#### 2) Guest Presentation: ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report 2023

Nazbi Chowdhury, Director, Public Policy and Strategic Initiatives, United Way of Broward County presented *ALICE in the Crosscurrents: COVID and Financial Hardship in Broward County*. Data for Broward County shows the annual ALICE Household Survival Budget is \$45,000 for a single adult and \$90,000 for a family of four. In 2021, about 46% of Broward households were below the ALICE threshold. Commissioner Rogers requested that the County Attorney place this presentation on a future Board of County Commissioners meeting agenda.

#### 3) Approval of the June 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** Christopher Krzemien moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ajibola Balogun seconded. All in favor.

#### 4) Chair's Report

Chair Barry-Smith deferred to Sue Fejes, Broward County Housing Finance Division, who reported that \$90M (400 new rental units) were approved during the recent Housing Finance Authority (HFA) meeting.

Commissioner Rogers requested a report from staff regarding agenda items 96 and 97 regarding housing assistance for seniors as discussed during the August 22, 2023 Board of County Commissioners (Board) meeting.

## **5) Director's Report**

Jo Sesodia, Director, UPD, reported that the Board is expected to enact another ordinance next month due to the State preempting regulation of residential tenancies and landlord-tenant relations, in accordance with HB 1417 (2023). The Board has rescinded the previous Tenant Bill of Rights and tenancy ordinances adopted in 2022; however, the existing Renter website continues to provide valuable resources to tenants and landlords.

During its August 22, 2023 meeting, the Board considered agenda items 96 and 97, introduced by Commissioner Rogers, related to financial assistance to condominium owners facing a financial crisis due to recent building safety legislation. SB 154 updates SB 4-D (2022) which imposes assessments for residential condominium reserves to cover the cost of structural inspections and emergency repairs. After lengthy discussion, the Board voted not to move forward with any local program and to advocate for the issue to be addressed at the State level.

Ms. Sesodia provided an overview of the BHC website and Affordable Housing Dashboard.

Commissioner Rogers requested feedback from the membership regarding support and solutions for the impacts of condo safety legislation on the senior population. Chair Barry-Smith stated that the BHC hosted a speaker on June 23, 2023 who addressed this subject. Following discussion, it was determined that the BHC will remain engaged in the related legislative process; however, no action was taken by the BHC on this issue.

## **6) New Business**

Christopher Krzemien reported that all funding from the Florida Hometown Heroes Program has been allocated for this fiscal year.

## **7) Old Business**

Jo Sesodia announced that the October 27 BHC meeting date has changed to October 6 since the workshop date was moved up to November 1 to accommodate the Keynote Speaker. The proposed workshop agenda was reviewed with some panelists to be confirmed. The workshop focuses on the major components of the Live Local Act.

Jo Sesodia reported that Commissioner Rogers offered to place an item regarding the BHC Proposed Charter Amendment Request on the September 19, 2023 County Commission meeting agenda. The item will direct CAO to draft appropriate ordinance(s) for Commission consideration.

## **8) Public Comments**

None.

## **9) Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

**10) Next Meeting:** 10 AM, Friday, October 6, 2023, Room 430, Broward County Government Center East, located at 115 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

*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.*