

SUMMARY MINUTES

BROWARD HOUSING COUNCIL Friday, October 6, 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	Debra Hixon	Christopher Krzemien
Gino Moro	Commissioner Hazelle P. Rogers	Teneshia Taylor
Lisa Vecchi		

Board Members Absent

Caryl Hattan, Vice-Chair	Frances Esposito	Parnell Joyce
Nathan Perlmutter		

County Staff

Jo Sesodia, UPD	Karina Rodrigues, CAO	Sue Carrano, UPD
Keith Darby, UPD	Sue Fejes, HFD	

Other Attendees

Caroline Cozzi, Habitat for Humanity of Broward

1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM by Chair Marcia Barry-Smith. Roll call was taken by Sue Carrano who confirmed that a quorum was present.

2) Presentation: Lisa Vecchi, CEO, Broward Housing Solutions

BHC member Lisa Vecchi presented information and updates regarding Broward Housing Solutions (BHS), a 501(c)(3) tax exempt developer and provider of affordable housing whose mission is to provide quality permanent, supportive, affordable and independent housing opportunities to meet the needs of lower income or homeless people who also have mental illness. The organization owns 21 properties and, along with third party landlords, currently houses 414 residents in 228 apartment units. BHS programs include Affordable Rental Housing, Home for the Brave, Youth Solutions, Senior Solutions, Lease-to-Buy Home Ownership; Broward II; Samaritan; and Broward IV.

3) Approval of the August 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

4) Chair's Report

Chair Barry-Smith stated that Sandra Veszi Einhorn is unable to attend today's meeting (Item 3); instead, Jo Sesodia provided a report about the Southeast Florida County Mayors' Affordable Housing Conversation hosted by the South Florida Regional Planning Council on September 29. This in-person meeting of the Mayors of Broward, Dade, Palm Beach and Monroe Counties focused on local affordable housing issues and collaboration and advocacy at the State level. Moving forward, the common issues identified were short term rentals; SHIP formula modifications; condo legislation; and support for doc stamp fees to fund affordable housing programs.

Chair Barry-Smith thanked Commissioner Rogers for her ongoing discussion of State legislation affecting condominium residents. She encouraged all BHC members to attend the November 1st workshop; please RVSP and share the invite with colleagues. Thank you to City National Bank for hosting the breakfast.

5) Director's Report

See Old Business.

6) New Business

The proposed 2024 BHC meeting dates were provided to the membership for consideration and/or conflicts. Approval of the proposed dates will be an action item on the December 8, 2023, regular meeting agenda.

7) Old Business

Jo Sesodia reported that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved an item on their September 19, 2023 meeting agenda directing the County Attorney's Office to draft the appropriate language for the BHC's proposed Charter amendment. A Public hearing will be scheduled in 2024; all final ballot items will be transmitted to the Supervisor of Elections in mid-July.

Ms. Sesodia announced that the Board will discuss its 2024 State Legislative and Executive Program on October 10 (Item #62). The Program includes several affordable housing items such as leveraging an affordable housing surtax; funding for seniors; SHIP formula modifications; and housing resiliency.

8) Public Comments

None.

9) Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM.

10) Live Local Broward Affordable Housing Workshop, 8:30 AM - 12 PM, Wednesday, November 1, 2023, Anne Kolb Nature Center, 751 Sheridan St., Hollywood, FL 33021

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.