

# SUMMARY MINUTES

**BROWARD HOUSING COUNCIL**  
**April 26, 2019- 10:00 AM**  
**African American Research Library and Cultural Center, Seminar Room 2**  
**2650 Sistrunk Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311**

## Board Members Present

Ajibola Balogun	Marcia-Barry Smith, Chair	Heather Brinkworth
Ann Deibert	Frances Esposito	Hermes Garcia
Vice-Mayor Dale Holness	Christopher Krzemien	Barbara Mendez
Ralph Stone	Teneshia Taylor	Lisa Vecchi

## Board Members Absent

Caryl Hattan, Vice-Chair	Howard Elfman	Gino Moro
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## County Staff

Jo Sesodia, Director	Sue Carrano, Coordinator	Chris Flynn, PDMD/BHC
Mark Journey, CAO	Kavaja Sardy, HIP	Orlando Garcia, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs / Boards Section

## Attendees who signed in

None.

## 1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting called to order at approximately 10:03 AM by Chair Marcia Barry-Smith. Roll call was taken by Sue Carrano and a quorum was present.

## 2) Approval of the February 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

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

## 3) Announcement of New Appointment to the Broward Housing Council

Chair Barry-Smith welcomed new BHC member, Mr. Hermes Garcia, who was appointed by the County Commission to represent the Banker category. Mr. Garcia is the Managing Director/Owner of HG Mortgage (Weston).

## 4) Chair's Report

Chair Barry-Smith discussed a handout from the Sadowski Coalition regarding call to action. Broward County stands to lose \$22 million in funding. She shared a PowerPoint presentation she has made to various municipalities regarding affordable housing at the state and local levels. HB 7103, which addresses inclusionary zoning, is progressing through the legislature. The legislative session ends on April 30 and members are encouraged to contact their local and state elected officials.

Broward County budget workshops will begin in May and the Coordinating Council of Broward (CCB) is presenting a paper regarding proposed funding of the County's new Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Vice-Mayor Holness discussed the need to identify funding sources, including the \$15 million already allocated by the County Commission and funds from expiring CRAs. He stressed that housing costs must work in tandem with income/economic factors.

#### 5) Director's Report: Jo Sesodia

Staff is focused on wrapping up the Affordable Housing Needs Assessment and updating the BHC web page. BHC members will be featured alphabetically in the newsletter and on the website's new Member Feature section.

#### 6) New Business

A) **Affordable Housing Needs Assessment.** Jo Sesodia reported that staff is working with FIU on final report. Dr. Murray gave presentation of findings to the BHC during their February 15, 2019 meeting. The final report was distributed electronically for BHC review prior to this meeting. It addresses the interrelationship between housing, transportation and economy. Housing affordability in Broward County has not improved, despite economic progress, and the County remains one of the most unaffordable places in the U.S. The report's Key Findings show less than 13% of households can afford median price home and there are 147,000 cost burdened renter households. Ralph Stone noted that the supply/demand analysis a shortage of over 100,000 affordable units within the County. Vice-Mayor Dale Holness moved to forward the Affordable Housing Needs Assessment update to the Board of County Commissioners for their acceptance. Beverly Williams seconded. All in favor.

B) **2019 Legislative Update.** Mr. Orlando Garcia, Boards Administrator/Legislative Policy Analyst, Broward County Intergovernmental Affairs/Boards Section, presented the most current status of 2019 housing related legislative items. The House and Senate are in budget conference. Final funding includes: SHIP (\$46.5 million); Rapid Rehousing (\$250,000) and SAIL (\$31.04 million). The legislative session ends on May 3 and the State budget must be submitted to the Governor by 6 PM on Tuesday, May 7.

Regarding proposed Affordable Housing programs, the Senate supports a proposed home loan process at 1% interest rate (15 year term maximum) while the House prefers a grant program for infrastructure planning in the Panhandle area. The housing related legislation being tracked by the BHC has all died except for SB 1730/HB 7103 which was approved by the House yesterday and sent to Senate for consideration. This legislation addresses inclusionary zoning, among other issues.

Mr. Garcia thanked the BHC members for their service.

C) **Broward Housing Council Information Cards.** A proposed design for BHC Information Cards was reviewed and discussed. One side includes the BHC's purpose, and the flip side contains top key findings from the Needs Assessment update. Mark Journey, CAO, reported that County policy prohibits business cards for advisory boards; however, this is designed as an information card. Broward County OPC staff has suggested developing the cards in tandem with a housing marketing campaign, to address costs. However, BHC does have the necessary funding and staff was directed to proceed with production of the information cards, as presented.

## 7) Old Business

None.

## 8) Public Comments

None.

## 9) Homeless Initiative Partnership (HIP) Administrator's Report: Rebecca McGuire

Kavaja Sardy, new HIP Human Service Manager, was attending on behalf of Dr. McGuire. The HIP is waiting for 2019 Notices of Funding Ability (NOFA) to be released. The 2019 Point in Time Count was submitted to the Citizen's Board and approved; numbers are not yet published.

Frances Esposito announced that, at the request of the County Commission, the Broward Partnership took over operation of the North Homeless Assistance Center on April 1. It is now a 268-bed facility and a day respite program. An informational advocacy campaign was rolled out as meetings with the Commissioners. Meetings with HOAs, civic associations and business community to follow. The North center will become a community resource, similar to the Central Homeless Assistance Center.

On March 6, the Broward Partnership was awarded \$25 million in low income housing tax credits to build a 72-unit facility on the Central Homeless Assistance Center campus. This is the first time in 10 years that such an amount has been awarded. Thank you to Ralph Stone for his support and assistance.

## Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Report: Vice-Chair Caryl Hattan

Vice-Chair Hattan was not present.

## 10) Next Housing Council Meeting

Friday, June 28, 2019, 10:00AM

African American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC)  
2650 Sistrunk Boulevard, Seminar Room 2, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

## 11) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 AM.

**Purpose:** *To serve in an advisory capacity to the County Commission and to facilitate coordination between the County, municipalities, the business community and not-for-profit groups to address housing issues including, but not limited to, affordable housing, workforce housing and homelessness. The Council shall submit an annual report to the County Commission and other organizations represented by the Council.*

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