

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OF THE CITY OF  
WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

1. Call to order: 4:00 P.M. Regular meeting March 15, 2009 at the Woonsocket Housing Authority, 679 Social Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895

Roll Call:

Chairman Albert G. Brien  
Commissioner Lucienne L. Cote  
Commissioner Gerard Frappier  
Commissioner David Lahousse  
Commissioner Normand Laliberte  
Commissioner Gerard Remillard

Executive Director, Robert Kulik - Absent  
Deputy Director, Duncan Speel  
Vice Chairman Charles Baldelli - Absent  
Attorney Paul Fontaine

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Chairman Brien opened the meeting by welcoming Commissioner David Lahousse to the WHA and that he will find the staff to be very helpful and very accommodating so he should not hesitate to contact the Director and Deputy Director at any time for any information.

- 1A. Good and Welfare for the Audience

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2. Minutes of the regular meeting of February 19, 2009 were brought up for discussion.

The minutes were received and placed on file upon motion of Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Frappier.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and "Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote

Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner David Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

3. Bills for month of February, 2009 were then brought up for approval upon motion of Commissioner Frappier, seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and "Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Remillard

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Chairman Brien asked for a motion to accommodate the Homestead Group by moving up New Business Item A "Presentation by Dr. Carl & Homestead Group on Adult Day Health Program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Frappier. Commissioner Laliberte then asked to be excused from the presentation due to the fact that he is a State Inspector and Homestead Group is under his jurisdiction.

Dr. Carl of the Homestead Group gave a presentation on a relationship and partnership with the WHA regarding an Adult Day Health Care Program at St. Germain Manor. This would be supported by State and Federal dollars which in turn would actively support Adult Day Care Programs and lunch meals, the staff support will be provided for by the Homestead Group. This program is proposed to be started with a small program in the Community Room and eventually when a Florida Room addition is put on, then the activities would be extended into a full blown facility. There was discussion as to how the stimulus money could be used to help with the extension on the building to make this a full blown facility. Commissioner Frappier asked if this would mean additional staff from the WHA and Dr. Carl responded no, the Homestead Group is responsible for all compliances and staffing. Commissioner Cote asked if this was going to be a Monday through Friday operation or a 6-7 day operation. Dr. Carl responded that at this point it would only be Monday through Friday with just lunch facilities. Commissioner Cote questioned how long this would take to be finalized as her concern was it will be shutting off the Community Room for the residents during these activities. Dr. Carl responded that after the permits are received, it would take about 6-8 months and

assured everyone that the activities are open to anyone who wishes to participate. Deputy Director Speel agreed that residents are more than welcome to join any of the activities. Commissioner Frappier commented that is a worthwhile concept and we should definitely move forward with this project.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

4. Communications and Interest of the Authority.

Chairman Brien asked for a motion to receive and place on file communication item A. Commissioner Laliberte made the motion and was seconded by Commissioner Cote.

A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”:

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

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5. Report of the Secretary

A. The Executive Director’s Report was received and placed on file upon motion of Commissioner Cote, seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

The Executive Director’s was submitted as written by Deputy Director Speel in Mr. Kulik’s absence. Deputy Speel did state that the Director is recommending the hiring of a Community Service Officer under New Business.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following

were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

- B. The Deputy Director’s report was received and place on file upon motion of Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

Deputy Director Speel started his report by mentioning that we will be receiving bids for the installation of new emergency generators at the high rises. Mr. Speel went on to mention that he had received a request for a skateboard park at Morin Heights and he is looking into this with the Attorney and the insurance company.

Deputy Speel also stated that due to the lack of parking spaces at Kennedy Manor, he is looking into renting 12 spaces in Tim Horton’s parking lot. Commissioner Frappier stated that by parking at Tim Horton’s, the residents would not have to cross Clinton Street, Mr. Speel responded that this would be less of a liability by not having to cross Clinton Street. Chairman Brien stated that this should be put on the agenda for the next meeting and Deputy Speel will be getting a Memorandum of Agreement for the next meeting.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

- C. The reports of the Direct Staff, Legal and Financial were received and placed on file upon motion of Commissioner Frappier, seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

Commissioner Cote asked Attorney Fontaine what was going on with the legal status with a particular resident at Parkview Manor. Attorney Fontaine responded

that their tenancy is ending March 31<sup>st</sup> then they will be able to begin court proceedings. There was nothing further that could be discussed regarding this tenant in an open meeting but Attorney Fontaine will keep Commissioner Cote updated.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and “Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

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6. Report of Committees

None

7. Unfinished Business

None

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8. Good and Welfare for Commissioners

Commissioner Lahousse stated that he was glad to be here and wanted to learn all he can about the WHA.

Chairman Brien wanted to acknowledge the contributions that John Notarangelo had made to the WHA and how much he is going to be missed. Chairman Brien requested the WHA to send a formal letter of acknowledgement and everyone agreed.

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9. New Business

A. Presentation by Dr. Carl & Homestead Group on Adult Day Health Program moved to beginning of meeting.

B. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for Resolution #1052 Approval of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Formula Capital Fund Grant ACC Amendment. A motion was made by Commissioner Laliberte and seconded by Commissioner Cote.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

C. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for Approval of Resolution #1053 the 2009 Operating Budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Laliberte and seconded by Commissioner Cote.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

D. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for Approval to Hire Community Service Officer. A motion was made by Commissioner Laliberte and seconded by Commissioner Cote.

The Deputy Director explained the qualifications of the Community Service Officer and that he is also a special officer as he will be the only one allowed to carry a weapon on our properties. Chairman Brien asked who were the other 2 applicants interviewed. The HR Manager stated who they were and explained the process to make the decision to hire Robert Moreau. Chairman Brien asked the rest of the interview committee if this was unanimous and all responded yes.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote

Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

E. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for Approval to Purchase a Vehicle. A motion was made by Commissioner Frappier and seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

The Deputy Director stated that we are looking for a vehicle for the Community Service Officer. Commissioner Laliberte questioned what type of vehicle we are looking for. The Deputy answered a mid-size with low mileage for about \$20,000. After a discussion regarding 3 bids and the Board giving the WHA carte blanche to buy whatever they choose, it was decided to submit several vehicles and prices for the next meeting with a recommendation.

Chairman Brien asked for a motion to table the Approval of Purchase of a Vehicle to the next meeting under unfinished business. A motion was made by Commissioner Laliberte and seconded by Commissioner Frappier.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

F. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for approval to Hire 2 Maintenance People. A motion was made by Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Laliberte.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the “Ayes” and Nays”.

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte

Commissioner Remillard

G. Chairman Brien asked for a motion to Award a Contract for 3 years for FSS (Family Self-Sufficiency) Close-outs to D & V Associates. A motion was made by Commissioner Laliberte and seconded by Commissioner Cote.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Laliberte  
Commissioner Remillard

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H. Chairman Brien asked for a motion for Resolution #1054 Approval of Discarding Tapes after Approval of the minutes at the Next Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Laliberte. Chairman Brien stated that he would like to have this tabled to the next meeting when Vice Chairman Baldelli returned. Commissioner Frappier strongly objected as he continued to state that at the last meeting Attorney Croll and Attorney Murphy made it quite clear and strongly advised that we could tape the meeting and when the minutes at the next meeting were accepted, they should be destroyed. Commissioner Frappier felt there was no reason to table this issue.

There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was taken; the following were the "Ayes" and Nays".

AYES

NAYS

Commissioner Cote  
Commissioner Frappier  
Commissioner Lahousse  
Commissioner Remillard

Chairman Brien  
Commissioner Laliberte

10. Chairman Brien asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Commissioner Cote and seconded by Commissioner Laliberte at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call vote was unanimous.

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Robert Kulik, Executive Director