

COUNCIL ON HOUSING
Public Session via Conference Call
March 10, 2021

Motions

- February 10, 2021 Minutes

Important Dates

- Relaunch Delaware Housing Assistance Program (DEHAP) – The Flats, Phase II, March 19th

Ms. Casey called to order the public session of the Council on Housing meeting at 2:00 pm, February 10, 2021. In addition to Ms. Casey, the following Council members were present:

Connie Harrington	Francis Julian	Donna Mitchell	Doug Motley
Amy Walls	Vincent M. White		

The following council members were absent and excused from the meeting:

Garrett Grier	Lillian Harrison	Norma Zumsteg
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Also attending:

Anas Ben Addi, DSHA
Jonathan Adkins-Taswell, DSHA
Shanná L. Alicea, DSHA
Susan Eliason, DSHA
Marlena Gibson, DSHA
Stephanie Griffin, DSHA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Julian moved and Ms. Harrington seconded that the Minutes of the February 10, 2021 meeting be approved. The motion was passed unanimously.

DSHA REPORT – Mr. Ben Addi

- Bond Bill Hearing will be sometime early May. Under the Bond Bill, DSHA has requested \$5.5 million for the DDD program, \$4 million for the SNHF, and \$6 million for the Affordable Rental Housing Program.
- During early days of the legislative session, there were two anticipated bills and one bill which was introduced. The two anticipated bills were Right to Counsel and Homeless Person Bill of Rights. The bill that has been introduced is the Source of Income Discrimination. DSHA Policy and Planning staff have been in contact with the sponsor of this bill and are only offering support and technical assistance when needed.
- LIHTC cycle was opened in early January and the deadline for application submission is April 30, 2021. Applications for the 4% credit has grown from the previous years where applications were nonexistent to eight or nine applications in the last couple of years.
- The first round of the DDD application has closed and sometime in late spring another round will be opened.
- As of December 30, 2020, the DEMAP (mortgage assistance) and DEHAP (rental assistance) program were closed. Going forward the DEMAP program may have \$40-\$50 million in assistance when the program reopens. While there hasn't be a high number of foreclosures, there has been a high

- number of delinquencies for the 90 plus days. For the fourth quarter of 2020 the percentage for 90 plus days delinquencies was 4.37% whereas the first quarter of 2020 the delinquencies were at 1.17%.
- The DEHAP received \$200 million for rental assistance. The program will reopen the week of March 22. It will be offering assistance up to 15 months which will include back rent and future payments. There will be a dedicated 800 telephone number and website specifically for the program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS: Ms. Casey

- None

OPERATIONS: Ms. Harrington

- The committee will be meeting soon to review the COH by-laws which should be revised periodically as needed. Amy Walls will be assisting in this process. The by-laws are available online.

HOUSING POLICY: Mr. White

- The committee met on 3/3/21. The agenda included budget and legislative updates and a summary of the DEHAP stakeholder sessions. Other discussion topics included presentations and plans for upcoming Policy Committee and Council on Housing meetings.

LOAN REVIEW: Mr. Julian

The committee met March 2nd and reviewed two HDF loan requests. After due discussion, Loan Review made the following recommendation to the Council.

- Cornerstone West CDC for Green Gate: Life Lines III - **Resolution #615** that the HDF financing be approved. Mr. Julian moved and Ms. Harrington seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.
- Millsboro Housing for Progress, Inc. for Millsboro Village Landing, LLC – **Resolution #616** that the HDF financing be approved. Mr. Julian moved and Mr. Motley seconded the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously with two abstentions from Ms. Harrington and Ms. Walls.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ADMINISTRATIVE:

- None

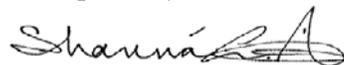
SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Shanná L. Alicea

Note: Copies of materials referenced as “attached” in these Minutes are available upon request.