

COUNCIL ON HOUSING
Public Session via Conference Call
May 13, 2020

Motions

- April 8, 2020 Minutes

Mr. White, Chair, called to order the public session of the Council on Housing meeting at 2:00 pm, May 13, 2020. In addition to Mr. White, the following Council members were present:

Dianne W. Casey	Francis Julian	Connie Harrington	Corrine Massey
Donna Mitchell	Doug Motley	Norma Zumsteg	

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

Garrett Grier

Also attending:

Anas Ben Addi, Director of Delaware State Housing Authority, DSHA
Jonathan Adkins-Taswell, Planner III, DSHA
Shanná L. Alicea, Administrative Assistant III, DSHA
Susan Eliason, Director of Housing Development, DSHA
Marlena Gibson, Director of Policy and Planning, DSHA
Stephanie Griffin, Housing Development Administrator, DSHA

Special Guest:

Mike Haldeman, Connections CSP
Ariana Langford, Connections CSP
Dr. William Northey, Connections CSP
Mike Skipper, Connections CSP
Esther Ng, Diamond and Associates
Chris Paul, Diamond and Associates
Allan Passwaters, MPH Preservation
Christopher Whaley, MPH Preservation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Zumsteg moved and Ms. Casey seconded that the Minutes of April 8, 2020 meeting be approved.

DSHA REPORT Mr. Ben Addi

- **Budget**
 - Budget surplus has decreased dramatically because of the COVID-19 crisis.
 - DSHA along with other State agencies are advocating for the stimulus funding. DSHA is working with the Governor on proposals on a few items including the emergency rental assistance funding.

- DSHA programs such as CBDG, ESG, and HOPWA will receive increased funding from the phase 1 stimulus bill and from the phase 2 package which will be coming in soon.
- Ms. Eliason, Ms. Gibson and other staff members have been working with other jurisdictions to address urgent needs especially the ones that are tied to COVID-19 around homelessness, hotel/motel options working with DSHA and other partners.
- LIHTC applications' deadline was April 30th for the main part of the application but DSHA has given the applicants until May 29th to turn in the other required LIHTC information. Seven applications have been received requesting \$6.5 million for an available \$3.2 million. Four applicants are nonprofits, three are preservations, three elderly, and at least one application was received for each county.
- Applications deadlines have been extended for the SNHF to May 29th and the HTF to June 26th.
- Allocations were negotiated early with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh bank for the next round of the Home4Good 2021 program to help with the emergency rental program.
- DSHA was able to raise \$5.7 million - \$2 million for HDF, \$2 million for the State, \$500,000 for New Castle County, Kent County committed \$185,000, Sussex committed \$250,000, and Home4Good from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh bank \$700,000.
- DSHA received approximately 5,500 applications for DE HAP of which half have been referred to Community Partners. DSHA is still working on the other portion of applications. The program was put on hold April 23rd because time was needed to work through the backlog and to make sure more applications weren't accepted until additional funding through the stimulus could be secured. Once additional funding is secured through the stimulus, DSHA will reopen the intake of applications.
- DSHA is also looking into other initiatives. DSHA is monitoring the homeownership situation to see what type of assistance can be offered because there is a lot of confusion on the forbearance guidance that is coming from the Federal agencies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Ms. Casey
 - None
- **HOUSING POLICY:** Mr. Taswell & Ms. Gibson
 - None
- **OPERATIONS:** Ms. Harrington
 - Ms. Harrington opened up nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.
 - The slate of officers will be presented to Council at the June meeting.
- **LOAN REVIEW:** Mr. Julian

The committee met May 5, 2020 and reviewed two HDF grant request. After due discussion, Loan Review made the following recommendation to the Council:

- Quaker Arts, LLC - **Resolution #606.** Mr. Julian moved and Ms. Casey seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed with one abstention by Ms. Harrington.
- MPH Preservation, LP – **Resolution #607.** Mr. Julian moved and Ms. Harrington seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

- Ms. Casey wanted to know if there was anything Council could assist with keeping DSHA's priorities in the view with legislators. Mr. White stated this topic will be brought up on the next Policy meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

- None

SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. Conference call from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Shanná L. Alicea

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