

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY
JUNE 23, 2020**

Attending: David Bowers, Jalal Greene, Tisha Guthrie, Damien Hausling, Matthew Hill, Iletha Joynes, Vernadine Kimball, Cindy Plavier-Truitt, and Shannon Snow.

1. **Call to Order**

Commission Chairman, David Bowers, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. It was determined that a quorum was present, and the Commission would be able to conduct official business, approve minutes, recommendations, etc.

2. **Approval of May Meeting Synopsis**

The following correction was noted to the May meeting Synopsis: In section 3.1, revenue figure to be corrected to \$8,136,080. Commission member, Shannon Snow, motioned that the meeting synopsis be accepted. Commission member, Cindy Plavier-Truitt, seconded the motion.

3. **City Agency Updates**

1. The Department of Housing and Community Development's Chief Operations Officer, Jay Greene introduced Housing Commissioner, Michael Braverman and Tisha Edwards, Director of The Mayor's Office of Children & Family Services to provide an update and information on proposals to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.
2. Commissioner Braverman discussed DHCD's plans to create programs intended to support eviction and homeless prevention for residents at or below 50% Area Median Income (AMI). The City has seen a three-fold increase from the normal rate of delinquencies due to the COVID-19 crisis. DHCD plans to devote \$13.1 million in CDBG funds from the federal government towards temporary rental assistance. Commissioner Braverman is also proposing a \$2.75 million contribution from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) to invest in emergency homeless prevention for residents that may not qualify for the rental assistance program.
3. Tisha Edwards, Director of the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Services, gave a presentation on the Mayor's efforts in supporting these programs. The City will be using Community Action Partnership (CAP) center resources, staff and existing infrastructure to administer the rental assistance program, ensuring that funds go directly to Baltimore City families in need.

4. Affordable Housing Trust Fund Program Manager, John Mobley, presented the Trust Fund revenue report and updates. Revenue collected in May 2020 totaled \$345,214.00. Trust Fund revenue collected through May 2020 totals \$12,478,288.00. This figure includes a \$2 million contribution for FY 19 plus \$2 million in FY 20 from DHCD, and \$8.48 million in tax revenues.

The New Construction & Preservation of Existing Rentals Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was posted on June 8, 2020. The Department held a preproposal conference on June 22, 2020, with approximately thirty-five participants in attendance. Additional questions about the NOFA are due by June 25, 2020. Applications for the New Construction/Preservation of Existing Rentals NOFA are due by 4:00 PM on July 31, 2020.

5. Senior Advisor to the Chief Operations Officer, Stacy Freed, provided updates on the Community Land Trust (CLT). A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Community Land Trust consultant was posted to the Department's website on April 3, 2020. Responses were due by April 27, 2020. One submission was received, and the review panel convened to review the proposal. The Department is continuing discussions with the respondent. The Department intends to have the Community Land Trust consultant awarded and contract approved by the Board of Estimates between the months of July & August 2020. It is the Department's intent to have the consultant begin working between August and September 2020.

A Community Land Trust single family homeownership draft NOFA will be posted for public review. There will be a public comment period and written responses will be due around mid-July 2020. It is anticipated that the formal NOFA will be posted towards the end of July 2020.

4. Presentations

Commission member, Matthew Hill, introduced a resolution to approve and adopt Baltimore City Council resolution # 20-0232R, which calls on the Governor of Maryland to use the \$1.3 Billion in Federal CARES Act relief funds to provide more resources for rental assistance, homelessness and eviction prevention. The City Council's resolution urges the Governor to use CARES Act funds to extend and expand the eviction moratorium and allocate funds toward eviction prevention & rental assistance. Mr. Hill motioned for The Commission to publicly state it affirms, supports and votes in favor of adopting the Cities' resolution. Commission member, Iletha Joynes, seconded the motion and the resolution was approved by the Commission.

5. Other Business

1. Stephani Estrada El provided information on financial disclosure requirements. All 2019 financial disclosure forms are due to the Baltimore City Ethics Board due by July 15, 2020. Disclosure forms should be mailed to the Baltimore City Ethics Board at 100 North Holiday Street, room #626, Baltimore, MD 21202.

2. Commission Chairman, David Bowers, discussed the next steps for the Commission. He proposed members of the Work Group and DHCD meet in July 2020, to discuss the AHTF spending framework and the CLT NOFA public comments.

The next Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2020. Items to be added to the agenda include an invitation to the Department of Finance for a presentation, updates on the spending framework and updates on the CLT and New Construction/Preservation of Existing Rental NOFA's.

3. Assistant Commissioner for DHCD, Jim Majors, informed the Commission that financial reporting that is to be prepared will satisfy the City charter requirements.
4. Commission member, Damien Hausling, will be stepping down from the Commission and this will be his last Commission meeting.

The Commission opened the floor for public comments and questions.

6. **Adjournment**

As there was no additional business, Commission Chairman, David Bowers adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.