



*Low-income housing- supporting independence, creating opportunities*

MINUTES

Brattleboro Housing Partnerships  
Monday, May 22, 2023, 4:30 PM

The meeting was warned on Facebook, the BHP website and in the Brattleboro Reformer: You are hereby notified that the 4:30pm, May 22, 2023, regular meeting of Brattleboro Housing Partnerships will be held on “ZOOM” will operate in a hybrid format, combining both the physical location and the ability to attend and participate in the meeting via Zoom. The physical location will be at 224 Melrose Street.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84876082452?pwd=WHhmeTJ6MVpJcjRYWXd4TnY0ZTIzUT09>

1- 888 788 0099 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 848 7608 2452

Passcode: 702932

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 4:38 pm by Chair Elizabeth Harrison, also present, Vice Chair Elisha Underwood, Commissioner Patricia Green, Commissioner Gary Stroud, Commissioner Michelle Wright, James Griffin, BHP Accountant, Lorelei Morrissette, Deputy ED, and Jeanette White, BHP staff.  
BCTV representative attended and recorded the meeting.
2. **Reviewed minutes from the April 24, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Stroud moved to accept, seconded by Commissioner Patricia Green. Approved 5-0**
3. Resident and Community Participation: No comments.
4. Staff Reports Review:
  - a. Executive Directors Report: There were no questions or comments.
  - b. Property Management Report:  
There are still a number of vacant units. Commissioner Wright wondered if there was an anticipated timeline to fill those units. Concerned both with our bottom line and with people waiting to get into units. Deputy ED Morrissette said that is not an area she is intimately involved with so was not sure but will get some information before the next meeting.
  - c. Resident Wellness and Services Report

*It is the mission of Brattleboro Housing Partnerships to ensure the provision of quality low income and affordable housing within viable communities to support independence and create opportunity.*

The newsletters and reports are always welcomed and provide a lot of information. Deputy ED Morrisette added that the SASH for All program is getting some publicity and so is becoming more visible to all. Commissioner Green added that perhaps some diabetic recipes could be included in the newsletter.

d. Resident Advisory Communication Committee

The Commissioners wondered how to get more participation from all the sites. This month it was held at Hayes Court and there were a few more in attendance. Commissioner Stroud suggested that perhaps there could be a survey done to find out ideal times. The last one was done in prior to 2020 so it might be time to do again.

There was also discussion based on their minutes about the infestation of bees – actually yellow jackets. Maintenance is trying to work with exterminators to rid them, but they continue to move to other spots. Perhaps putting all trash in one spot as is planned at Ledgewood will help.

e. Section 8 program:

It was noted that the Shelter Plus Care program does not have as many participants as it would like. Commissioner Wright wondered if there was anything the Board could do. Deputy ED Morrisette suggested that David DeAngelis could attend a meeting to give more detailed information about the SPC program. If it seems the Board could be helpful, staff will let them know how and when.

5. Financial Review:

James Griffin reported that 2023 is proving not to be as productive as was hoped. This is not unique to BHP but with all PHAs. It is due to many things including the increased cost of utilities, all contractors, maintenance, and legal costs connected to rent collections.

a. April 2022 comparable, reviewed.

b. April 2023 check listing: reviewed.

c. Check signing assignments: May - Commissioner Green, June - Commissioner Harrison, July - Commissioner Wright, August – Commissioner Underwood, September – Commissioner Stroud, October – Commissioner Green

6. BHOI

Commissioner Underwood reported that BHOI was working on cards to be used as thank yous and a template to be used by staff that would include BHOI tax exempt number. Reported that the grant from AARP for the Ledgewood playground was not received – unexpected number of applicants and little money to grant.

7. **Chair Harrison motioned to adjourn; Commissioner Stroud seconded the motion approved by a vote of 5-0**