



*Low income housing- supporting independence, creating opportunities*

## MINUTES

Brattleboro Housing Partnerships  
63rd Annual Meeting of the Brattleboro Housing Partnerships  
Monday, November 17, 2025 at Noon in Red Clover Commons I Community Room

The meeting was warned on Facebook, the BHP website and in the Brattleboro Reformer:

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm by Chair Elisha Underwood, Also present, Vice Chair Michele Wright, Commissioner Gary Stroud, Commissioner Patricia Green, Commissioner Suzie Walker and Christine Hazzard, Executive Director. BCTV representative, BHP staff, residents and community members attended.
2. Board of Commissioners Chair Elisha Underwood opened the meeting with remarks about the success and challenges of the past year. She expressed her gratitude for the Board, staff, residents and community partners who make BHP a success.
3. Each Commissioner shared why they choose to and continue to be a member of the Board. There were a few common themes, among them the importance of stable, secure and safe housing, and wanting to give back to the community. Also mentioned where the importance of working with dedicated staff and residents, learning from each other, understanding how and why certain things happen or do not happen.
4. Executive Director Christine Hazzard introduced the Brattleboro Housing Opportunities Inc. Board – Konstantin von Krusenstiern, Jennifer Sutton, and Jan Anderson who were in attendance, and Prudence MacKinney who was unable to attend. She talked about the accomplishments of the last year, where BHP is currently and where it is going. She assured everyone that even though we do not have control of federal funding and actions, BHP was currently on sound ground and is working with other housing authorities around the state to remain so.

Safety was a big issue this past year and by collaborating with Brattleboro Policy and Fire and One Brattleboro, many issues were solved. But she mostly credited the residents who worked hard to keep their neighborhoods safe.

She talked about the redevelopment of Melrose Terrace into 31 units of housing for seniors and encouraged attendees to look at the displays in the back of the room.

*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*

5. Jake Bursky, Lead Coordinator of SASH for All (SFA) gave a report on the program. He stressed the importance of the program in people's lives, gave statistics to back that up and hoped the program could continue to grow and spread to other parts of the state. He thanked the partners that work with the program to provide this essential program. "A magnificent tree starts with a seed being planted, and a healthy life experience starts at home."
6. Vice Chair Wright honored BHP residents Krystale Aloise, Ebon Longueil, and Heather Wright for their outstanding determination and innovation in building a better community
7. Commissioner Stroud honored David DeAngelis with the Thomas C. Yahn Leadership Award for his dedication to the preservation and development of affordable housing and/or to the lives of those who live in affordable housing. David was unable to attend the event, cards were given to attendees to write kind words and thanks to David. These were mailed to David with the award.
8. Resident and community member comments:
  - a. A resident shared that they are a new resident and are grateful for their housing, however they want to offer input on the Resident Handbook. They feel there are too many rules and have ideas about how to gain resident input to change them. E. D. Hazzard explained that the rules are based on HUD regulations, Fair Housing and BHP situations. The Handbook is modified with resident input and when changes are made residents are welcome to make suggestions.
  - b. A resident asked about Christmas decorations and parties and E.D. explained that residents can host holiday events and decorate a holiday tree if all residents are allowed to participate.
9. Formal meeting called to order at 12:40 pm by Chair Elisha Underwood
10. Officers were nominated and elected:
  - a. **Elisha Underwood was nominated to continue to be Board Chair for 2026 by Commissioner Stroud, seconded by Vice Chair Wright and approved by a vote of 5-0.**
  - b. **Michelle Wright was nominated to continue to be Board Vice Chair for 2026 by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Stroud approved by a vote of 5-0**
  - c. **Christine Hazzard was nominated to continue to be Board Secretary for 2026 by Commissioner Stroud, seconded by Vice Chair Wright and approved by a vote of 5-0.**
11. Board Packet reviewed including financial report, rent report, wellness and supportive services report
12. **Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm by Chair Elisha Underwood.**

*Christine Hazzard*, Secretary, December 1, 2025