

**ROCHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

October 25, 2017

**ROCHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY
OCTOBER 2017, 12:00 PM
675 WEST MAIN STREET
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14611**



MEMBERS PRESENT

George Moses, Chair
John Page, Vice-Chair
Hershel Patterson, Commissioner
Willie Otis Commissioner
Calvin Lee Commissioner
Tynise Edwards
Rosemary Rivera

STAFF PRESENT

John Hill
Melissa Berrien
Linda Stango
C. Clarke
Paul Foti
Shemeka Davis
Jacquetta Harris
Cynthia Herriott
Rashondra Martin
Janis White
Sandra Whitney

OTHERS PRESENT

H. Todd Bullard, RHA Legal Counsel
Heather Amidon
Jamie Frumusa

Chair Moses called the October Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) Regular Board Meeting to order at 12:00 PM. He noted for the record that notice of this meeting was posted as required by law and there is a quorum present.

1. **Open Forum – Public Comments**

Dorothy Tucker, JWRC President, lives at Ridge Hudson Tower; she commented on the changes to the Public Housing Staff. She is very unhappy with the changes; the residents currently don't feel safe, they are complaining about the illegal activities that are going on since the change. It would be great to receive a notice to let the residents know about the change in Hudson and Ridge's staff. The previous staff knew the resident's needs. She believes this change will affect their elderly population and with the new staff, Hudson and Ridge are suffering. The residents are asking RHA to bring back the old staff to Hudson Ridge. Ms. Tucker submitted wiring request to have voted for Resident Commissioners Board Members to be extended. JWRC declined the Laundry Service and is requesting additional meetings.

Katherine Warren, Secretary Resident Council, Facilitator for Tenants on Patrol is not happy with the change of RHA staff to Hudson Ridge Tower. The new staff needs to engage with the residents, and they are not doing that. She states there are prostitutes and drug dealers at her site. She is asking for emergency lighting immediately. She has lived in Hudson and Ridge a long time and since the new staff has been there nothing is the same, and they don't feel safe. She is also asking the old staff to return to Hudson and Ridge.

Hester Reeves from Seneca Towers concern is when there is an emergency; she felt the APC Security didn't respond to her needs promptly, it was two hours before someone showed up. She is not happy with the new staff, she tried to contact one of the staff from RHA, and it took hours for that person to respond. She is not used to this type of service from RHA. She is asking for the previous staff to return to Hudson and Ridge.

2. **Approval of Minutes: September Regular Board Meeting**

Commissioner Lee moved, and Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 2017, Regular Board Meeting. Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Patterson, Commissioner Page, and Commissioner Otis, Commissioner Edwards, and Commissioner River voted yes. The motion was passed.

3. **Director's Report and Board Approval Requests**

a. Executive Director John Hill presented his director's report on the following topics:

1. John Hill updated the Board with the letter he received from he received from Lisa Pugliese, Director of the Office of Public Housing in Buffalo. HUD has closed out the two Findings identified in the PIH Compliance Monitoring Review. The Findings is cleared based upon the receipt of the Board approved Policies.

Hurricane evacuees from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, On October 6, 2017, PHA's received an email form HUD Buffalo Field Office addressing the issue. However, it states HUD will issue an official guidance and Waiver in the upcoming weeks.

On Monday, October 16, 2017, about 15 agencies met at IBERO to discuss ways to assist the families who may be relocating to Rochester. This Meeting was chaired by Hilda R. Escher of IBERO. There will be