

**ROCHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY
July 24, 2019
675 WEST MAIN STREET
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14611**



MEMBERS PRESENT

Tynise Edwards, Acting Chair
Joanne Larson, Commissioner
Calvin Lee, Commissioner
Hershel Patterson, Commissioner
Rosalie Remarais, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT

Shawn Burr
Melissa Berrien
Sinclair Carrington
Mike Gallo
Jacquetta Harris
Sara Jaouen
Shawanna Lawrence
Linda Stango
Evhen Tupis
Janis White

OTHERS PRESENT

Jamie Frumusa, Tipping Point
Communications

Acting Board Chair, Tynise Edwards, called the July Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) Regular Board Meeting to order at 12:00 PM. She noted for the record that notice of this meeting was posted as required by law and that there was a quorum present.

1. Open Forum – Public Comments

Ms. Nadine Devine stated that she lives at Hudson Ridge Tower, pays her rent, is the head of the household, and on a fixed income. She stated that although her boyfriend pays the insurance on her car, it is owned by her. She stated that she is handicapped and on oxygen and believes that based on those issues, she should be able to park in the handicapped parking spots, however Ms. Ruth Ward would not give her a Parking Pass. She stated that Ms. Ward refused and told her that these are the rules. She spoke with Mayor Lovely Warren, and the Mayor gave her some suggestions as to what she can do. Ms. Devine stated that after having a conversation with Mayor Lovely Warren, she felt discriminated by Ms. Ward as Ms. Ward began putting tickets on her car. Ms. Devin also has a service dog, and Ms. Ward is fully aware of that, and now she has allegedly begun harassing her about the dog. She asked if someone could help her with these issues. She was assured that staff would respond.

2. Recognition of Successful Family Sufficiency Completion

Ms. Thompson is a successful graduate of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program; she started the program in 2012 and completed all her goals. She will receive an escrow check as well. Ms. Thomas is very thankful for the help she received from James Waters and Jaquanda Jones.

3. Approval of Minutes: June Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lee moved, and Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 2019 Regular Board Meeting. Commissioner Patterson, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Larson, Commissioner Remarais, and Commissioner Edwards voted yes. The motion was passed.

4. Director's Report and Board Approval Requests

Director's Report and Board Approval Requests

a. Acting Executive Director, Shawn Burr, presented his Director's report as follows:

On Saturday, June 26, 2019, RHA hosted the 2nd Annual Strong Families Extravaganza. It was a big success and many thanks to Melissa Berrien and all the RHA staff and Commissioners who helped organize, facilitate, and participate in the event. They did an outstanding job, and it was great to see all the smiling faces! Many thanks to all the vendors who participated and Sinclair for keeping them hydrated with water deliveries. Melissa will have more details and pictures in her report.

Mr. Burr, Mike Gallo, and Sara Jaouen toured many of RHA's sites, noting items that need to be addressed. They discussed strategies and creative ways to accomplish all that they would like to see done; Mike and Sara have begun addressing areas of concern. They have included larger projects in RHA's Capital Project Pipeline, and each of them will be conducting training sessions with RHA staff. Mr. Burr will be going out with the UPCS inspection team next week to some of our sites, conducting training, and ensuring that priorities are in the right place.

On July 9, 2019, Mr. Burr attended a meeting hosted by the Continuum of Care, now known as Partners Ending Homelessness, to brainstorm on making sure they have the right community partners involved with ending homelessness as part of their strategic plan. The meeting went well, and many new partners were identified. They will all be contacted and invited to join one of the CoC committees or subgroups.

On Thursday, July 18, 2019, Mr. Burr met with Dr. Brock from RMAPI met to discuss ways that RHA can successfully partner. They brainstormed especially about RHA's Family Self-Sufficiency program and ways in which they could incorporate the program to benefit others in our community. Mr. Burr was asked to participate with the Steering Committee and will be attending the next meeting.