

**ROCHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY
April 28, 2021
675 WEST MAIN STREET
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14611**



MEMBERS PRESENT

Rosalie Remarais, Acting Chairperson
Florine Cummings, Resident Commissioner
Duwaine T. Bascoe, Commissioner
Joanne Larson, Commissioner
Tynise Edwards, Commissioner
Henry Rubin, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT

Melissa Berrien
Shawn Burr
Diana Colon
Jacquetta Harris
Linda Kavanagh-
Schwenger
Shawanna Lawrence
Mark Plantholt
Mariam Rodriguez-
Machuca
Shelby Simpson
Evhen Tupis

OTHERS PRESENT

H. Todd Bullard, RHA Legal Counsel
Julie Panna, Tipping Point Communications

Commissioner Rosalie Remarais called the February Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) Regular Board Meeting to order at 12:04 pm. It was 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

There were no Public Comments.

2. Approval of Minutes: March 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Edwards moved, and Commissioner Bascoe seconded the motion to approve the March 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Remarais, Commissioner Bascoe, and Commissioner Larson voted yes, Commissioner Edwards and Commissioner Rubin abstained. The motion passed four to zero

3. Director's Report and Board Approval Requests

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

Mr. Burr would like to **CONTINUE** to recognize Staff across the Authority who continue to go above and beyond to ensure our quality services are performed and resident and participant needs are taken care of especially during this pandemic! They are doing a remarkable job! Efforts are being made in the planning and execution of when we re-open as it will be soon upon us. Procurement and Maintenance are helping greatly. The teamwork displayed before, during, and after the vaccination clinics is a true testament of the great staff we have.

Mr. Burr shared that as the pandemic continues, we all need to remain diligent in maintaining each other's safety. RHA continues to monitor and adhere to new regulations, recommendations, and Executive Orders as we receive them. Mark and staff have tested the new sanitizing system and is moving forward on implementing it at our other sites. Visitor restrictions, COVID questionnaires, and temperature checks continue for all visitors. Temperature kiosks for staff and visitors are moving forward with implementation. The Executive Team monitors current conditions daily and meets weekly to discuss our processes. The re-open committee has also prepared plans to re-open and modify them as conditions change. We have allowed two visitors for residents, as long as they have been designated by the residents and we have their names on file and at the security guard stations

Mr. Burr congratulated RHA Public Housing resident Luz Figueroa, who was awarded second place with her NYSPHADA Scholarship application. She will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship!! Congratulations to Ms. Figueroa!! Congrats also to Melissa and her team for working with Ms. Figueroa on getting her application submitted on time.

Mr. Burr shared that we were awarded \$1.6 million in funding for our Federal St. RAD project from NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) through their Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP)! We are hoping that this award strengthens our HCR LIHTC application.

Mr. Burr shared that we continue to have weekly meetings with our NYS POP grant consultant to move the grant forward. We met with our City of Rochester partners again on 3/22/21 to update on progress, strategies and target area and will meet again in late May. We will continue to update at the Project Planning meeting.

Mr. Burr shared that Trillium's COVID testing/Primary Care services for our residents continue with April's schedule moving along.

Mr. Burr reported we continue to meet with Common Ground Health, Trillium and others on opportunities for providing vaccinations for our eligible residents, program participants, and employees. He wanted to acknowledge the amazing job our staff have done in making each event happen!! We've sent packets of information to our residents to sign up for vaccination appointments and sent out Robocalls, have gone door to door,