



# NORTHAMPTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

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## FEBRUARY 2021 MINUTES APPROVED MARCH 15, 2021

Members of the Northampton Housing Authority met via “Zoom” on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 6:54 P.M.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:54 P.M.  
Upon Roll Call, those present and absent were as follows:

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Richards; Vice Chairperson Brooks; Commissioner Jones; Commissioner Silver; Commissioner Laufer; Commissioner Cancel & Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cara Leiper; Jack Redman; Keith Walsh; Sharon Kimble; Deb Dunphy Smith; Attorney Tom O'Connor; Donyaël Parrish; Heather Maxwell; Lisa Donoghue; Maity Delhoyo; Kaitlin Hanning; Joseph & Angela Santaniello & Catherine Messina.

Commissioner Silver – can we move up the discussion of the ED evaluation form to the top before Commissioner Laufer leaves? I would also request to table the discussion of the form until March as I didn't have enough time to prepare or a chance to review the information. Would also like clarification from the email of Attorney Pender on the staff form for evaluation – make it part of the agenda. Also tenant input- two different tenant surveys which would come to us as Board members annually. This should be in next month's agenda.

Cara – I will have the minutes forwarded and the email from Attorney Pender sent to the Board.

Commissioner Silver put forth the motion to table the ED evaluation form discussion until March 2021, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

**VOTING AYE:** Chairperson Richards, Vice Chairperson Brooks; Commissioner Silver; Commissioner Laufer; Commissioner Jones; Commissioner Cancel & Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.

**VOTING NAY:** NONE

Therefore, Chairperson Richards approved the Motion.

### TENANT COMMENTS

Angela Santaniello – Salvo – is there money in the budget for washers and dryers. We have 192 units and only 9 washer/dryers. It takes too long to do laundry as there are so many washers & dryers not working. Also, multiple items have been mentioned in previous meetings and we never hear a response back. Other residents make the same comment. What are the resolutions? Neighborhood Watch is going well, still have issues – if no one is manning the new cameras they aren't doing any good. Thank you for the new carpeting in the hallways, tenants need to be accountable with their pets or the carpets will get ruined.

Catherine – Salvo #505- I echo the thanks for the new carpeting in the hallways.

Joella Tarbutton-Springfield – the dogs are making a mess outside, there is a lot of foot traffic on the side of the building next to the Senior Center and there is a lot of dog poop. Can we have a place to put the dog waste in?

Chairperson Richards – asked the new Board members who are also tenants to put their Board hat on during the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2021 MINUTES

Commissioner Jones put forth the motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Brooks.

ABSENT: Commissioner Laufer

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Cancel, Commissioner Silver, and Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.

VOTING NAY: NONE

Therefore, Chairperson Richards stated there is no quorum and it will be put on next month's agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the January 2021 financials.

Cara noted that NHA is 58.33 percent through the budget for the year and we are under budget on most items due to COVID.

Discussion – Update on Residents & Staff on the COVID vaccine

On February 18, 2021 the residents and staff were eligible for the COVID vaccine. Board of Health in Northampton is not interested in a partnership. All residents are eligible for vaccine. The RSC's are helping residents in getting appointments. All residents should be vaccinated by sometime next month.

Chairperson Richards – any other questions on this?

Commissioner Silver – Have you contacted CVS, Walgreens, etc.?

Cara – If the Board of Health partnered with us they would have gone to the properties to administer but they don't have the manpower to do that. We have reached out to pharmacies and doctors.

Commissioner Silver – is there any way of getting a priority at Eastfield Mall or UMASS? DHCD? This should be a high priority.

Cara – we have given letters to residents and staff that they can use to obtain the vaccine. DHCD and the Governor did move us up on the list. RSC's are trying to work with the residents.

Commissioner Silver – do the tenants know that they can get help from the NHA.

Cara – yes.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield – I got a robo call the other day and I got my vaccine.

Commissioner Silver – for next month's agenda – can we have a conversation of when the Board packets go out. Receiving them on a Friday evening for a Monday meeting doesn't give me enough time to read through everything.

Chairperson Richards – do we have a preview of next month's meeting?

Commissioner Silver – vote to change the bylaws on what we decide.

Cara – better to put this on the April agenda, there is a lot for the March meeting.

Vice Chairperson Brooks put forth the motion to adjourn the February meeting at 7:19 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Silver.