



NORTHAMPTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

ANNUAL MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2025
Approved on May 19, 2025

Members of the Northampton Housing Authority met via "Zoom" on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

The Chairperson called the Annual Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
Upon Roll Call, those present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT: Chairperson Carney; Commissioner Jones; Commissioner Brooks; Commissioner Wood,
Commissioner Healey & Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.
ALSO PRESENT: Matt Mainville, Sharon Kimble

APPROVAL OF THE 2024 ANNUAL MINUTES

Commissioner Brooks put forth the motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Healey.
VOTING YAY: Chairperson Carney; Commissioner Brooks; Commissioner Healey & Commissioner Wood.
VOTING NAY: Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.
ABSENT: Commissioner Jones
Therefore, Chairperson Carney approved the 2024 Annual Minutes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON — Commissioner Brooks nominated Chairperson Carney, seconded by Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield nominated herself for Chairperson seconded by Commissioner Wood.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield stated her reasons for running — one of the things, you have done a nice job so far, but in particular I am very concerned because there is a complaint going on that in some ways you have been implicated and we need someone that is not involved in this and who is impartial and fair and I would like to have that opportunity. You have done enough for a while and it is time for someone else to get a chance at it to utilize their power if there is such a thing in a Chair, it is a prestige position and I think there needs to be other factors involved other than someone who's done it before and before and before. I think in light of a pending investigation, I don't think Carney, you should be there and I think it should give somebody else a chance to do it, who is unfazed, if there is such a thing, about everything that is going on and I will do my best in this capacity and I would like to have an opportunity. I have been on many boards; one is the governors of the Northampton Survival. Center. I think it is just fair to give somebody else an opportunity and have a different vision especially a lived experience of people who are in public housing. Thank you for your vote and I am concerned with the suspended public comment.

Chairperson Carney — I humbly accept the nomination, we have been through some difficult times here in this agency and I continue to try to do my best to keep this ship afloat for the benefit of the residents of Northampton Housing Authority and also for the City of Northampton. Thank you for the nomination and I appreciate your vote.

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Commissioner Wood - JoElla I don't know you, I have known Maureen for a long time, I was the Health Department director when Maureen was on City Council and so I have had the experience of her in that position and I am using that experience and the rationale for my vote. I also want to say I share a commitment to understanding how best to engage the residents of the public housing authority in the deliberations and the decisions that this board makes and it is going to be something that I will focus on as I learn more about how to engage best as a Commissioner. Just wanted you to have that commitment from me.

VOTE FOR CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson Carney - Chairperson Carney.

Commissioner Jones - Chairperson Carney.

Commissioner Brooks - Chairperson Carney.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.

Commissioner Wood - Chairperson Carney.

Commissioner Healey - Chairperson Carney.

THEREFORE, MAUREEN CARNEY WAS ELECTED INTO OFFICE FOR CHAIRPERSON.

VICE CHAIRPERSON - Chairperson Carney nominated Commissioner Healey, seconded by Commissioner Jones.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield nominated herself for Vice Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - Commissioner Healey just got on the board and she has got a lot to learn and I think that is important. I have been on the board, I think going on five years now and I have been a resident for over a decade and I come from a perspective I think, that needs to be included and I don't make the agenda, I want to be a part of making the agenda, I would like to be heard and I think that is important. I am concerned about the relationship between Carney and Healey. It has come to my attention you are writing some things on Facebook giving donations and I don't know if there is a conflict of interest there. It seems like there is a block and it is not including the rest of the board and I think just even that has been reported to the ethics commission and I am worried about that.

Commissioner Healey - I appreciate what you are saying, JoElla and as a candidate for this office should I prevail, I look forward to working with you and every Commissioner together on the issues that are important to tenants and I feel like I do have a learning curve that is different from yours and I believe that I am also as dedicated and as focused on learning the best way to represent everyone at the Housing Authority. I look forward to serving on the Housing Commission for a long time and doing the best job I can and whoever takes this position I know that we will work together.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - it is important they get community involvement, community organizers and I am in a place where my perspective, my lived experience are valued that I was sponsored to come to this conference in Alaska, that is valuable and I don't think we have had a person of color, maybe the person before, Edgardo, who was a former resident have been part of that and I would like my perspectives to be like here and other places to be welcomed and not frowned upon. I think that is important and you just got here.

VOTE FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson Carney - Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Brooks - Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Jones - Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Wood - Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Healey - Commissioner Healey.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.
THEREFORE, COMMISSIONER HEALEY WAS ELECTED INTO OFFICE FOR
VICE-CHAIRPERSON.

TREASURER - Chairperson Carney nominated Commissioner Brooks, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Healey.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield nominated herself seconded by Vice-Chairperson Healey.

Commissioner Wood - I would like a description of the position. Commissioner Wood found the description and read it out loud.

Matt Mainville - the reality is confirmation that checks are being appropriately invoiced and paid and that is checked by two commissioners now.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - Brooks, your term has expired, your governor appointee and I know that someone else has applied who hasn't been appointed yet and there have been times that I know of you have been working on an expired timeframe. I want to be treasurer because I want to know where the money is going and one of the things I have done is asking questions and Gary DePace can attest to that and to get more training to the board about what the financial situation is in some of the categories and learn more about that, it is not just a rubber stamp. I want to know what is going on, I do appreciate a resident being able to do this position, I think you have done it for a while and it is always good to have new eyes look at a situation. I have been concerned with what happened to us being audited last time and not having some forms and stuff signed on time and being called out by Marcus and EOHLC about some financial matters. I personally would like to know where money is going because I am seeing things that I don't know as a board. We voted on it and I would like to let the board be aware and let the public be aware and the tenants be aware of what is going on.

Commissioner Brooks - I have been treasurer since about 2017 or 2018, not sure. The function of the treasurer is to be here and available at many different times when checks need to be paid out immediately. Today we had one instance of that where I had to be here to co-sign that check which had been forgotten about in the last group of checks that I signed last Friday. I have always thought being located at McDonald House I was close to the action on that and I could co-sign those checks almost instantaneously, so that is my take on being the treasurer.

VOTE FOR TREASURER

Chairperson Carney - Commissioner Brooks.

Vice-Chairperson Healey - Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Brooks - Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Jones - Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Wood - Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield - Commissioner Tarbutton-Springfield.

THEREFORE, COMMISSIONER BROOKS WAS ELECTED INTO OFFICE FOR TREASURER.

Commissioner Jones - point of order, I was late getting on, did we approve the minutes from a year ago? Chairperson Carney - yes.

Matt Mainville - we did and then we had a quorum to get through it, I appreciate you asking that question.

Vice-Chairperson. Healey put forth the motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting at 5:54 p.m., seconded by Chairperson Carney.