

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH**

April 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth was held on Monday evening, April 12, 2021 at the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth Administration Building, 688 Maple Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elizabeth Pollard at 6:00pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On roll call the following Commissioners answered present: Commissioners Capita, George-Carroll, Gonzalez, Pollard and Trujillo. "Absent": Commissioners Ancrum and Cano.

Others presents: William D. Jones, Executive Director and Carmine Liotta, Esquire, Attorney.

***Please note that the Commissioner Board was present via a telephone conference for this meeting.

Chairman Pollard announced that pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 of the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting of the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth has been given by mailing the January 2021 Annual Meeting Schedule to the newspapers circulating within the County of Union and designated to receive such notice, and by posting the 2021 Annual Meeting Schedule on the Housing Authority office bulletin board and further by filing the Annual Meeting Schedule with the office of the City Clerk.

The Chairman requested that the above statement be entered in full in the minutes of the meeting by the Secretary of the Housing Authority.

Public Session:

None.

Commissioner Capita moved for the adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8th, 2021 Seconded by Commissioner Trujillo.

Adopted by the following vote: "AYES": Commissioners Capitaio, Pollard and Trujillo. "NAYS": None. "ABSTAINED": Commissioners George-Carroll and Gonzalez. "ABSENT": Commissioners Ancrum and Cano.

Commissioner Capitaio moved for the payment of the bills in the amount of: \$2,340,667.18 dated April 8, 2021 and Seconded by Commissioner Trujillo.

Adopted by the following vote: "AYES": Commissioners Capitaio, George-Carroll, Gonzalez, Pollard and Trujillo. "NAYS": None. "ABSTAINED": None. "ABSENT": Commissioners Ancrum and Cano.

Communications:

Award letter Congratulating HACE on the ROSS Grant Award for the next three years in the amount of \$478,500.

Mr. Jones stated that HACE was also awarded a Safety and Security Grant in the amount of \$244,844. This grant will be used for Security Cameras.

Report of the Executive Director:

HACE is participating on weekly calls with New Jersey Health Initiatives representatives from Rutgers and the Robert Wood Foundation. We are forming a coalition of agencies from across the State to develop ways in which we can educate and target populations who are in need of vaccinations for COVID-19. The weekly calls will provide opportunities to share ideas and customize best practices for reaching all New Jerseyans.

HACE is beginning to work on creating programming for Senior Citizens through social work internships working with both Rutgers and Kean Universities. Beginning as early as May 2021 which is National Older Americans Month, an intern from Kean University will provide a 14 week "Heart Healthy Initiative" focusing on cardiovascular disease and related material at 205 First Street. Beginning in late August, Rutgers will place an MSW Aging specialist intern at Kennedy Arms to work directly with residents and address needs of community. HACE is extremely encouraged to be able to provide services to our senior residents while also providing educational opportunities to young adults interested in working with our populations.

Additionally through partnerships with Jewish Family Services, HACE will be able to provide seniors living at Mravlag Manor an opportunity to participate in a program to assist with the digital divide. This program will involve the placement of small devices like a cable box to be attached to their televisions which can provide direct programming on demand geared for seniors. The device is called UNIPER. Uniper Care is a leading provider of age-at-home, TV-based and mobile-based solution for care delivery and social engagement. Designed to improve Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), Uniper's technology-enabled services include live and interactive health and wellness content, HIPAA complaint video telehealth, remote assessments, family communication, and peer-led groups. Providing an end-to-end solution that transforms a TV or mobile device into an interactive connectivity hub, Uniper empowers every older adult to live a healthy and active social life full of interest and meaning from the comfort of home. The program does have costs that typically would be passed along to clients however, through the partnership with JFS and Lifelong Elizabeth, grant monies will be able to provide cost coverage for up to 15 residents.

The 170-176 First Street project has the approval of the Planning Board and the Tax Abatement was also approved by City Council. HACE will be submitting the application for funding to DCA on the week of April 12th, 2021.

Old Business:

Commissioner George-Carroll inquired about the Web-Site. Mr. Jones stated that it is being upgraded and Ms. Ana Maria Valdesuso stated to the Board that on the next Commissioner's Meeting (May 10th, 2021) a photographer will be present to take head shots of the Commissioner Board and Senior Staff for the Web-Site.

New Business:

None.

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The following resolution was adopted by a motion.

Commissioner George-Carroll introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. **6241**
By: Commissioner Denise George-Carroll

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SALARY INCREASE AND
MERIT PERFORMANCE APPROVAL FOR SENIOR STAFF
OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH
(NON-UNION) EMPLOYEES**

WHEREAS; to award for service, cost of living and merit performance, the Board of Commissioners wishes to put in place a salary increase of 2%-5% and merit performance increase for the Senior Staff, non-union employees, of the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth;

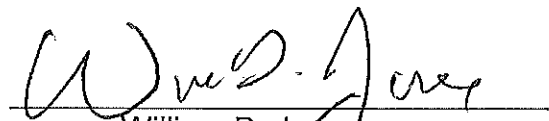
BE IT and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED; that the Salary Increase shall take effect as of January 1, 2021.

Seconded by: Commissioner Gonzalez.

Adopted by the following vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Wynona J. Ancrum	()	()	()	(X)
Wilson Cano	()	()	()	(X)
Jose Capita	(X)	()	()	()
Denise George-Carroll	(X)	()	()	()
Nelson Gonzalez	(X)	()	()	()
Elizabeth J. Pollard	(X)	()	()	()
Victor Trujillo	(X)	()	()	()

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted at the regular meeting held on April 12, 2021 and contained in the minutes of the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth.



William D. Jones
Secretary-Treasurer

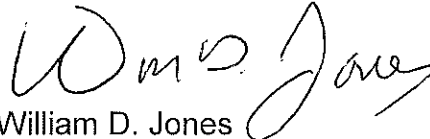
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There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Capitaó moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner George-Carroll.

Adopted by the following vote: "AYES": Commissioners Capitaó, George-Carroll, Gonzalez, Pollard and Trujillo "NAYS": None. "ABSTAINED": None. "ABSENT": Commissioners Ancrum and Cano.

The meeting was therefore adjourned at 6:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wm D Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "W" and "J".

William D. Jones
Secretary-Treasurer