

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE  
JUNE 19, 2017

The Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Seattle (“Seattle Housing Authority” or “SHA”) met in regular session on July 19, 2017, at SHA’s Central Office Building located at 190 Queen Anne Avenue North, Seattle, Washington. Board Chair Debbie Thiele called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Kimberly Garrett performed a roll call for Board Commissioners in attendance. Commissioners present and absent were as follows:

Present:       Debbie Thiele, Chair  
                  Emily Abbey, Vice-Chair  
                  Zachary DeWolf  
                  Dr. Paula Houston  
                  David Moseley

Absent:         Ahmed Abdi  
                  Jermaine Smiley

Public Comment

Marguerite Richard

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Abbey presented the Consent Agenda, which included approval of minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of April 17, 2017; minutes from the Regular Board Briefing of May 8, 2017; minutes from the Regular Board Briefing of June 12, 2017; and the Expenditure Certification Reports (Authorization to Pay Outstanding Obligations of Salaries and Claims for the Period of April 1 through April 30, 2017, as well as the for the Period of May 1 through May 31, 2017). Commissioner Moseley moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded by Commissioner DeWolf. Hearing no questions or comments, Commissioner Thiele called for a vote. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously by those Board members present (5 yes 0 no).

## Regular Agenda

### Resolution No. 5131 – Executive Director Discretion in Emergencies

Commissioner Houston moved for consideration of Resolution No. 5131; it was seconded by Commissioner Abbey. General Counsel James Fearn presented Resolution No. 5129 to the Board and recommended adoption of the resolution.

Resolution No. 5131 to the Board, which authorizes the Executive Director to provide housing in SHA owned units or other housing assistance to SHA residents and HCV participants who lose their housing as a result of natural or man-caused disasters, government action, contamination, or similar events or circumstances determined by the Executive Director to justify exercise of the discretion provided in the resolution.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Commissioner Thiele called for a vote of Resolution No. 5133 as it currently states. Resolution No. 5133 was approved by majority vote of the Board present (5 yes; 0 no).

### Resolution No. 5132 - Home From School Ranking Preference

Commissioner Moseley moved for consideration of Resolution No. 5132; it was seconded by Commissioner Abbey. Deputy Executive Director Anne Fiske Zuniga presented Resolution No. 5132 to the Board and recommended adoption of the resolution.

Resolution No. 5132 aids in fulfilling the goals of the Home from School Pilot Program by proposing to add a preference to the Public Housing Waiting Lists for this program. The preference will allow Home from School participants to move to the top of the waiting list when a unit that meets the goals of this program becomes available.

The Home from School program aims to support homeless and unstably housed families with children in order to positively impact family and school stability. The program, piloted at Bailey Gatzert Elementary School located in the Yesler neighborhood, has a two-pronged approach: it provides long-term affordable housing options to families experiencing homelessness who would like access to stable housing, and would provide for continuity in their neighborhood school.

Hearing no questions or comments, Commissioner Thiele called for a vote. Resolution No. 5132 was approved by majority vote (5 yes; 0 no).

### Executive Director Report

Executive Director Andrew Lofton opened his report by highlighting an SHA employee, Jeffrey Lew, who is a Certification Specialist I in the HCV program. He was recently recognized in the media for his efforts to raise money to pay off school lunch debt for low-income students at the Seattle Public Schools. Originally setting out to pay off the student debt of at his son's elementary school, Jeffrey was successful in raising enough money (over \$25,000) to pay off student lunch debt for all Seattle Public Schools, and inspired similar campaigns in the region. SHA is so proud of Jeffrey and his achievements on behalf of students in the Seattle region.

Mr. Lofton made mention to the Board about scholarships that SHA awarded to high school students that are residents of SHA housing. We were able to provide ten scholarships to students this year due to the generosity of the College S.P.A.R.K.S. Foundation. These monies are earmarked toward college tuitions for the students.

Mr. Lofton was pleased to report the closing for the Red Cedar project at Yesler Terrace. This will be the fourth replacement housing project at Yesler and construction is underway. The 119 unit project will have 80 replacement housing units, and 39 workforce housing units for households with incomes up to 60% of AMI.

SHA was recognized by Seattle Public Schools for our work with them to address chronic absenteeism of SHA students attending Seattle Public Schools and the data sharing efforts that help to identify other areas needing additional focus. SHA is recognized nationally for our work to try to integrate our ability to provide housing stability the Seattle School District to enhance and further the ability for students to become academically successful. The Superintendent publicly acknowledged our partnership by presenting SHA with a certificate during a public ceremony with the Seattle School Board.

Commissioner Moseley had an inquiry regarding the Othello Station feasibility analysis that was mentioned in Mr. Lofton's April 2017 Executive Director report. Mr. Lofton committed to providing a briefing of the analysis and an update of the project in July.

Commissioner Thiele asked if there were any further questions or comments from staff, or from her colleagues on the Board. Hearing none, the June 19, 2017 regular session of the Board adjourned at 5:31p.m.

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Secretary-Treasurer