

Charlestown Elects New Tenant Task Force



The Charlestown Housing Development elected a new tenant task force to lead the development and work to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood. Task force members will serve as the liaison between residents of a development and the housing authority. They also plan activities and bring resources to tenants.

In July, the BHA hired Positive Approaches, Inc, a consulting firm, to oversee the election process. Paul Lewis, president and

founder of Positive Approaches, worked closely with the election committee and representatives from the BHA to ensure that the elections went smoothly.

Because the election committee had only four members at the time, Lewis's first goal was recruitment. The final committee now has 10 members, not all of whom are BHA residents.

"Once we accomplished that, we set a goal to start establishing an election process," Lewis said. "How were we going to develop information packs, recruit potential task force members and inform and educate all the residents about the process?"

Lewis and the election committee started by distributing flyers and holding a community meeting to give Charlestown residents information about the election process. The response was extremely positive.

"Folks are ready for it," Lewis said. "They want to have a voice in Charlestown."

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Thanksgiving 2006
