

RAB meeting notes October 11, 2018

Family Public Hsg: Members Arlene Carr, Meena Carr, Phyllis Corbitt, Val Shelley, Concetta Paul, Aracelis Tejada. Alternates Janis McQuarrie (Alt 4), Cheryl Semnack (Alt 10): 8

Elderly/Disabled Public Hsg: Members Michele McNickles, John Maloni, Eugenia Smith, Marlena Nania, Modesta Ballester, David Turney. Alternates: Arthur Alexander (Alt 1), Eddie Hartfield (Alt 2): 8

Section 8: Members Edna Willrich, Jung Wing Lee, Stephen Tracey, Lerona Diggs, Judith Frey, Karen Stram, Arlette Coleman, Minnie Jackson. Alternates: Therese Browne (Alt 3), Robin Williams (Alt 4): 10

Absences excused: Betty Carrington, Kasandra Ledesma, Betty Raye-Wade

Others: John Kane, Randi Holland, BHA; Zoe Cronin, GBLS; interpreter.

The meeting was chaired by Valerie Shelley. Meena Carr was Timekeeper; Lerona Diggs was Sergeant at Arms. Minutes of prior meeting were approved but Eugenia Smith did not attend MUPHT. These notes are mostly from Zoe Cronin of GBLS and a little added by John Kane of BHA.

1 – Annual Plan 2019 - Capital Fund Program - Randi Holland presenting on RAD Conversions

Two sites are going forward with RAD conversions right now – Doris Bunte/Walnut Park and St Botolph

Old Colony will be RAD, but with a developer involved

Planning process should take 8 months.

Tenants spoke up with a lot of concerns about how RAD would affect them (Mr. Lee). Many concerned that they did not understand RAD.

- Lenox (residents are worried)
- West Newton

Residents feel that St Botolph has handled it well and want to learn from them step-by-step.

Also reviewed proposed 2019 Plan schedule and December meeting has been moved 1 week earlier to December 6 with public hearings on Dec 10.

2 – NARSAAH / MUPHT conference report

(Michele) – Discussed HUD cutbacks, RAD is basically Hope VI all over again. Believes that residents need to show media that they are informed and interested in the process. Believes that low-income Americans need to use media to change their portrayal that has led to bad perceptions. She believes freedom rests on being informed and stepping up to the plate to act.

- Thinks that tenant groups should invite the developers to their next tenant meeting
- Believes there should be a renewed investment in Resident Services
- Believe that residents from Family/Elderly & Disabled/Section 8 need to all work together

(Mr Lee) – Emphasized that he went to trainings on the importance of voting in the midterms, Section 3, Smoking, Mental Health, Banking the Unbanked. He thought the presentations he went to only benefited the presenters and checked off boxes for them but were not helpful to learn from.

(Therese) – Conference was not good, presenters were not good teachers. Boston has enough resources to have own conference.

(Arlene) Agree conference not useful, how could we do a conference in Boston and learn from each other where no one is self-glorifying. Bill gave us \$3000 for training, let's have a conference!

Ad Hoc Committee to do a conference is formed with Michele, Edna, David, Marlana, Arlene, Karen, Robin, Meena, Cheryl, John and Eugenia. More people wanted to give reports on MUPHT conference but ran out of time so this was tabled.

3 – Committee Reports – Policy and Procedure – see notes from handout; notes were approved. Budget - Kerfluffle about reimbursement from Jet Blue. Some travelers to NARSAAH got a voucher for \$100 off their next flight due to a 4 hour flight delay. However the RAB paid for their tickets, not the individual. What's fair? Big disagreements/some sharp words/then there were apologies.

4 – Old / New Business Announcements: Discussion of possible Holiday Party in December or possibly a socializing/networking party to be held later. Secretary report – need to keep contact information updated. Yvette Moore has resigned as asst. Secretary and Board needs a replacement. Also Jeanne Burke Patterson is out on medical leave for Oct-Dec.

5 – Evaluation – good / okay. Adjourn.