



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
SCOTTSDALE HOUSING AGENCY GOVERNING BOARD**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 26, 2022
Granite Reef Senior Center, Room 8
1700 N. Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

PRESENT: Chair Neal Shearer, Vice Chair Tricia Serlin, Board Members Jeff Jameson, Roger Lurie, Patrick Dodds, Mary Jung, and Stuart Turgel

STAFF: Greg Bestgen, Director; Irma Hollamby, Community Assistance Manager; Mary Witkofski, Community Development Supervisor; Christina Cooley, Housing Supervisor; Christopher Groesbeck, Landlord Liaison; Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager; Mike Lopach, Human Services Center Supervisor

Call to Order

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

No members of the public wished to speak.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2022

BOARD MEMBER LURIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 28, 2022 SCOTTSDALE HOUSING AGENCY GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR SERLIN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, BOARD MEMBERS JAMESON AND LURIE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; BOARD MEMBERS DODDS, JUNG, AND TURGEL ABSTAINED; THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Scottsdale Housing Agency Housing Partnership Program

Christopher Groesbeck, Landlord Liaison, discussed in detail what the Scottsdale Housing Partnership Program is and reviewed the efforts being taken to increase rental opportunities for Scottsdale housing voucher participants. During his presentation, he talked about efforts being

made towards recruitment of new landlords, retaining current landlords, and rewarding landlords through incentives. He noted that as part of the Housing Partner Program, the city is offering landlords a \$1,000 sign on bonus, which is intended to cover security deposits for tenants and offers an additional \$500 as needed to cover damages. He highlighted landlord outreach and engagement accomplishments. He noted that in June 2022, the Scottsdale Association of Realtors will be hosting an event to introduce the Housing Partner Program and opportunities and incentives available to landlords when working with the City of Scottsdale

Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Hollamby explained that the city already has processes in place for situations where landlord/tenant issues arise. Mr. Groesbeck will be working directly with landlords on a regular basis to help in navigating the process.

Mr. Groesbeck explained that the \$1,000 incentive program will fluctuate as needed and the \$500 comes in when the security deposit has been depleted. The amount can be adjusted in instances where damage is excessive.

2. Housing Choice Voucher Waitlist Opening and Lottery

Christina Cooley, Housing Supervisor, gave a presentation about the Scottsdale Housing Agency (SHA) intent to accept interest applications for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program waitlist and the marketing efforts being made to notify the public of the opportunity. Waitlist applications will be accepted starting at 9:00 a.m. on June 1, 2022 through 3:00 p.m., June 17, 2022. Once the application window is closed, a random lottery will be completed by a third party to select 2,200 eligible applicants. Applicants who are selected will be notified by July 1, 2022. Those people not selected during the lottery will have the opportunity to reapply the next time SHA opens an application window.

Board Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Hollamby said that tests have shown that the process of filling out a HCV online takes approximately four minutes. Staff is available via a dedicated phone number to assist those who need help filling out the application. Ms. Hollamby explained that federal regulations require that the process begin with a waitlist and that vouchers be offered based on preferences laid out in the waitlist. The City only opens the waitlist every couple of years, because it will take the Human Services team that long to process the 2,200 applicants that are selected.

Board Members requested that staff give the Commission a tutorial about the challenges that staff faces in going through the process and about the City's unmet needs.

3. Adjournment

BOARD MEMBER JAMESON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR SERLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, BOARD MEMBERS JAMESON, LURIE, DODDS, JUNG, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Recorded and Transcribed by eScribers, LLC.