

Orange County Housing Authority Board

March 26, 2014

Members Present: James Anderson, Diane Beecham, Jean Bolduc, Tara Fikes, Tammy Jacobs

Members Absent: Jonzella Bailey-Pridham and Brittney Walden

Welcome/Introduction

The meeting was called to order by the Chair Jean Bolduc at 6:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the February 19, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by James Anderson seconded by Tammy Jacobs.

Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Budget Review

Fikes reviewed the fiscal year to date revenue and expenses for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program as of February 28, 2014. The estimated fund balance as of that date was \$191,609 and the current number of vouchers under lease was 568 with 18 vouchers outstanding. Fikes noted that the review of the methodology for calculating vouchers under lease has now been completed, thus she is more confident in the numbers being reported. Selections are continuing to be made from the waiting list to increase leasing.

Annual PHA Plan Update Public Hearing

Chair Bolduc opened the Annual PHA Plan Update public hearing and there was no one present to comment on the Plan. The Plan will now be submitted to HUD by the April 17, 2014 deadline.

Board Work Plan Continued

Board members continued discussion of the development of an information session/training to encourage landlord participation in the Section 8 Program. The purpose for this training would be to explain the program to help the community understand why the program is necessary and important for the community. Board members are now expecting to implement this idea in late summer – early fall of 2014. The following ideas were noted: 1) review land records information to identify property owners with more than one property; 2) there may need than one session; 3) take the sessions to the people (identify key locations in the community); 3) develop an information video for the website; and 4) review the Durham Housing Authority Program. Fikes noted that a sub-committee of the Orange County Housing Coalition plans to discuss marketing of the Section 8 Program in the coming weeks and someone from the agency should be a part of those discussions.

Department Updates

Tara Fikes introduced James Davis who will be the Interim Director of the Department effective April 1, 2014. Additionally, she shared that the department has been asked to collaborate with the Health Department and the Department of Social Services in their efforts to develop targeted programs to address poverty in the County. Other announcements included the County Expo planned for Friday, April 4th from 10 am – 2 pm in University Mall and the County's Fair Housing Month information luncheon planned for Thursday, April 10 from 10 am – 11:30 am at the Holiday Inn Express in Hillsborough.

Other Business

Board members presented the attached resolution noting the accomplishments of Dr. Tara L. Fikes on the occasion of her retirement. The resolution passed unanimously on a motion by James Anderson, seconded by Diane Beecham.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by James Anderson seconded by Diane Beecham.

Respectfully submitted: Tara L. Fikes, Secretary