

TOWN OF ACTON  
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ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 17, 1993. 68 Windsor Avenue, Acton, Ma.

Attendance: Tom Dill, Jean Schoch, Barbara Willson, Barbara Yates. Linda Colby, Ann Hosmer, Naomi McManus/Acton Housing Authority

Absent: Peter Berry

Guest: Thelma Formalarie, Nancy Toomey, Elizabeth Higgins, Gertrude Heron.

1). The Chairman, Barbara Yates, called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2). Barbara welcomed the elderly residents from Mccarthy Village and reviewed the roles of the Authority's Board and staff.

The following list represents the concerns/issues that were discussed with the residents:

A). Ms. Higgins asked the Board to consider assigning resident parking spaces and to designated an area for guest parking only. Ms. Yates agreed to take their request under consideration.

B). Ms. Higgins requested that the Board consider installing speed bumps leading to the family complex area. The E.D. stated that she had investigated this issue previously and was told that because speed bumps were not originally installed they would not function effectively now. The E.D. noted that the families are aware of the problem and are monitoring and speaking to the speeders directly.

c). Ms. Higgins stated that she had noted several of the outside decking boards were in need of re-nailing. The E.D. stated she would instruct the maintenance staff to check on all the decking and re-nail any boards in question.

d). Ms. Toomey asked about the regulation for visitors staying with residents. The E. D. explained that a resident may have guests up to three weeks. Ms. Toomey stated she knew of a resident that had a guest longer than three weeks. The E.D. informed the Board that she had been aware of Ms. Toomey's concerns and that she had met with the resident in question. The resident informed the E.D. that occasionally her granddaughter stayed a night or two with her but her granddaughter lived with her mother in the community.

e). The current location of the vegetable garden was discussed. After the discussion the E.D. reminded the residents

and the Board that the garden had been tilled for free and the location was made for its accessibility and exposure to sun only. The E.D. recommended that if the Board voted to relocate the garden that they should consider taking monies from the Planning and Development fund to cover the relocation costs. (the cost of renting the tiller, the cost of the lawn seed and the cost of the labor) Barbara Willson moved that the Board vote to relocate the garden and the expenses incurred be paid from the Planning and Development fund. Tom Dill seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

f). Mrs. Heron asked why the maintenance staff could not accept gifts/monies at Christmas time from a resident. The E.D. explained that the employees of the AHA must adhere to the State's regulation, Standard of Conduct for Public Officials and Employees of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities. She pointed out that in the regulation an employee may not accept gifts/money or become involved in a situation which might create or appear to create a conflict of interest.

g). Ms Higgins asked if a clothes line could be installed in the back yard. After a brief discussion it was the sense of those present that there was no one area that would be appropriate.

4). The Chairman thanked the residents for coming and expressing their concerns.

5). Barbara Willson moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of 4/26/93 be approved with the noted correction. Jean Schoch seconded the motion and all members voted to approve.

#### 5). Executive Director's Report

A). A successful party was held in the elderly's community building at Mccarthy Village for all the parents who live in the family housing development at Sachem Way.

B). The E.D. has been invited to attend a public forum on community based health care issues at Emerson Hospital, June 8, 1993 at 7:00 pm.

C). The United Way has informed the Authority that they received two donations from people in the community who had specified that their donation be used for AHA.

D). The E.D.'s letter to Carole Collins requesting EOCD's authorization to allow AHA to charge the current outstanding maintenance cost to EOCD Directed Cost Line Item was noted.

E). The letter from Combined Insurance Co. informing the Authority that their agents have been instructed that in the future they are not to contact a resident unless the resident has requested information directly.

F). MAGIC's Annual Regional meeting on May 20, 1993 was noted.

G). The roof repairs at Pillar House #I was noted. Jean Schoch moved that the Special Assessment of \$39.00 a month per unit be paid. Barbara Willson seconded the motion and all members voted to approve.

H). NAHRO's Annual Sea Crest Conference was discussed. If any Board Member is interested please contact the office directly.

I). A discussion as to whether to allow pets in family housing followed. Based on the recommendation of the E.D. the deferred taking a formal vote to request a waiver from EOCD's Pet Policy.

J). The Acton/Boxboro Junior Women's Club gave a successful workshop on budgeting, last month for clients of the AHA.

K). The Beacon has agreed to write an article about the various programs/services that the Authority offers its clients.

6). Old Business

The Board deferred taking a vote on the Anti-discrimination Policy written by the E.D.. It was agreed that the Board would review the policy and formally vote at the next Regular Meeting.

7). New Business

A discussion to use CORI for the Authority's Section 8 Existing Certificate Program followed. Based on the recommendation of the E.D. Tom Dill moved that Board vote to authorized the use of CORI for tenant eligibility on the Section 8 Program. Barbara Willson seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

8). Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled June 7, 1993 at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Naomi E. McManus  
Executive Director