



Sarasota Housing Authority  
269 South Osprey Avenue  
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Annual Board Meeting  
August 2, 2023  
4:30 P.M.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jack Meredith called the meeting of the Sarasota Housing Authority Board of Commissioners to order at 4:24 pm.

II. **INVOCATION**

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Chair Jack Meredith, Vice Chair Ernestine Taylor, Commissioner John Colón, Commissioner Deborah Sargent, Commissioner Mark Vengroff (Zoom), Commissioner Carolyn Mason and Commissioner Duane Finger (Zoom)

Commissioners Not Present: N/A

Attendees: Attorney Ric Gilmore, Valerie Buchand, City Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch, Rachel Johnson (in at 5:10 pm) and Agnes Kirkland

SHA Personnel: William Russell, Rick Toney, Andrea Keddell, Lance Clayton, Viktoriya Coblentz, Michelle Stears and Ken Waters

V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. SHA Regular Board Meeting – June 28, 2023

- Chair Meredith put up the minutes from the June 28, 2023, Regular Board Meeting for approval.
- Commissioner Colón made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Finger seconded the motion.
- Commissioner Sargent stated that she would like the estimated stipend amount listed on page 3 of the minutes to reflect the actual amount of \$79.35 and inquired as to why the MOU, which was tabled and to be discussed at the next meeting, is not on today's agenda. Mr. Russell responded that it was not added to the agenda because the requested budget outline was not submitted to the board for review. Commissioner Sargent stated that they have a partial budget started and that it should be ready sometime around the September meeting.
- Attorney Gilmore indicated that the estimated amount listed in the minutes should stay at the estimated amount, but that Commissioner Sargent can have the corrected amount of \$79.35 listed for public record in this meeting's minutes.
- The above motion was voted on and passed 6 to 1 (Commissioner Sargent-Opposed).
  - Commissioner Sargent reiterated her comments above for public record that the stipend amount is not \$77.19 and is in the amount of \$79.35 and that the MOU was not put on the agenda, as voted on during the last meeting.
  - Mr. Russell added that Commissioner Sargent has now informed the board that the Resident Council's budget will be completed by September and that the final MOU can be added to the agenda once it is received.

**VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

- A. None

**VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

- A. None

**VIII. NOMINATION & ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- A. Nominations for Chair/Vice Chair:

- Commissioner Colón nominated Jack Meredith for Chair.
- Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.
- Commissioner Meredith agreed to serve as Chair.

- B. Nominations for Vice Chair:

- Commissioner Colón nominated Commissioner Taylor for Vice Chair.
- Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed.
- Commissioner Taylor agreed to serve as Vice Chair.

**IX. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

It was discussed that committee chairs would remain as they were from last year's appointments:

- A. Resident Interest Committee: Commissioner Sargent accepted the appointment as Chair of the Resident Interest Committee. Commissioner Taylor will remain on the committee.
- B. Development Committee: Commissioner Meredith accepted appointment as Chair of the Development Committee. Commissioners Finger and Vengroff will continue to serve on the committee.
- C. Administration & Finance Committee: Commissioner Taylor accepted appointment as Chair of the Administration & Finance Committee. Commissioner Finger will continue to serve on the committee.
- D. Bylaws Committee – Commissioner Mason accepted appointment as Chair of the Bylaws Committee. Commissioner Sargent will continue to serve on the committee. *(This is what was voted on during last year's appointments, 8/2/2022, not Co-Chairs as was stated during this meeting.)*

**X. RESOLUTIONS – ACCEPTED BY CONSENT**

- A. None

**XI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. President & CEO Evaluation

- Attorney Gilmore addressed the board and requested that all the Board members finalize and submit their completed evaluations to Attorney Gilmore prior to the next board meeting so that the results can be presented during the September board meeting.

**XIII. PROGRAM UPDATES – ACCEPTED BY CONSENT**

- A. Monthly Financial Statements
- B. Board Committee Reports
- C. Housing Management Reports
- D. Housing Voucher Report
- E. Capital Fund Program Report
- F. Resident Services Monthly Report

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- Commissioner Colón made a motion to accept the Program Updates Consent Agenda. Commissioner Mason seconded the motion.
    - The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**XIV. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMENTS**

- A. Commissioner Mason reported that the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) is scheduled, and she has reminded Mary Butler to notify Valerie Buchand, with SHA’s Resident Council, of the dates so some SHA residents could participate.
- B. Commissioners Colón informed everyone that he attended the recent SHA Backpack Giveaway at MLK Park last weekend to represent the board.
- C. Attorney Gilmore addressed the board on 2 items:
  - 1. It was brought to his attention that there was some confusion about whether there could be changes made to the Board Agenda and how this can be done. His suggestion is to add a section for the approval of the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, before Special Presentations, to give an opportunity for Commissioners to comment on the agenda. He further stated that this should be discussed at an upcoming Bylaws Committee meeting to enact this revision.
  - 2. Attorney Gilmore informed the board that there is an upcoming HDLI conference that he is presenting at that’s being held in Edgartown, Massachusetts during September. They are small sessions (that fill up quickly) and Commissioners that attend the conference receive a more personal training experience. He will make sure SHA staff has the information to send to the board in case anyone is interested. Mr. Russell confirmed that it is a good conference for commissioners to attend.
- D. Mr. Russell reported that SHA put in applications with Florida Housing Funding Corp for funds allocated from disaster recovery funds for Hurricane Ian and was funded just over \$10 million for Lofts on Lemon Phase II. We were 2<sup>nd</sup> behind another application from Northport for the Courts project. SHA put in a challenge for this application and the Northport application withdrew. So, SHA will get a 2<sup>nd</sup> project funded. The hope is to start the projects next summer. Commissioner Meredith inquired about another allocation of funds that he read was coming from the State of Florida. Mr. Russell responded this is the CDBG funds the County received in disaster recovery funds and reports that in their action plan they’ve designated \$100 million going towards housing. Within that amount, they’re proposing \$40 million for new construction of multi-family homes and \$50 million for single-family homes. Mr. Russell made an inquiry to see if additional funding could be allocated to the multi-family homes.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

The Sarasota Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 4:53 pm.