

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2011
ANN WHALEN COMMUNITY ROOM
33 KELLOGG AVE., AMHERST, MA

Members of the Amherst Housing Authority met in regular session on Monday August 29, 2011 in the community room of the Ann Whalen Apartments, 33 Kellogg Ave. Amherst, MA. The Chair, P. Jessop, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: P. Jessop, C. Kruger, J. Logan, J. Brooks, P. Bobrowski

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: D. Crabtree, J. Tetreault

AGENDA ADOPTION/CHANGES: Upon motion of J. Brooks, seconded by J. Logan, it was voted to adopt the agenda.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Upon motion of C. Kruger, seconded by J. Logan, it was voted to defer approval of accounts payable until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Upon motion of C. Kruger, seconded by J. Brooks, it was voted to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 29, 2011.

TENANT CONCERNS: No tenant concerns were reported.

SCHIFFER HOUSE DISCUSSION: J. Tetreault, who is organizing the sale of the Schiffer home for the AHA, stated that she believes the Authority will not receive any applications for the property given the lack of response to date. If the Authority is interested in expanding the potential pool of applicants the AHA will need to go to Probate Court to amend the conditions of the deed according to Attorney Hardee. J. Tetreault will contact Town officials to receive their feedback on the reasons for the lack of applicants. Members authorized the staff to contact an attorney to begin the probate process.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Section 8 Program: D. Crabtree stated that Section 8 Program Fair Market Rents are proposed by HUD (Housing and Urban Development) to decrease again this year and, if that is the case, she will request a 20% exception rent from HUD. After more than a year, the Authority is now selecting applicants off of the Section 8 wait list.

705 Program: Sub bids for the Olympia Drive rehabilitation project are due on September 28; general bids are due on October 10, 2011. **Regular Board meeting dates:** The Board agreed to meet on October 24 and November 28 for the next two regular board meetings.

TENANT ORGANIZATION REQUEST: Members reviewed the request from the Ann Whalen Get Together group to be recognized as the official tenant organization of Ann Whalen. D. Crabtree will distribute the group's bylaws and DHCD (Department of Housing and Community Development) regulations concerning Tenant Organizations to members.

POWER OPTIONS CONTRACT: Upon motion of J. Brooks, seconded by P. Bobrowski, it was voted to approve a contract, effective November 1, 2011, for the purchase of natural gas through the Power Options Program and to authorize the Executive Director, upon consultation with one board member, to sign the contract at the optimal rate available.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH: C. Kruger gave the Board a report on the Executive Director search efforts including recommendations from the paper screening committee. Members agreed upon an interviewing schedule.

ADJOURN: Upon motion of J. Logan, seconded by C. Kruger, it was voted to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. until the next special meeting on October 3, 2011 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the community room at Ann Whalen Apartments, 33 Kellogg Ave., Amherst, MA.