

AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY  
AGENDA REGULAR MEETING/ MINUTES  
April 2, 2018 – 6:45 PM  
Town Room, Town Hall, 4 Boltwood Ave AMHERST, MA

Members of the Amherst Housing Authority met on MONDAY April 2, 2018 Town Room at Town Hall, 4 Boltwood Ave, Amherst, MA. Board Chair, M. Burkart called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: M. Burkart, D. Williams, T. Boutilier

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Members of the Amherst Ma Board of Selectmen and others

**AGENDA ADOPTION/CHANGES:** Adopt

Upon motion by T. Boutilier, seconded by D. Williams, the agenda was presented.

It was voted to adopt the agenda as presented.

Unanimous

**JOINT ELECTION WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO FILL AMHERST HOUSING AUTHORITY VACANCY MGL C41 §11**

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) and the Amherst Housing Authority were presented two applicants interested in filling the recently vacated seat as a Commissioner of The Amherst Housing Authority.

The Process was reviewed:

At election meeting, each candidate makes a 2-minute opening statement.

- Each Select Board member and member of the other Board has opportunity to ask the panel of candidates one question (same question to all candidates) alternating between members of both Boards to the degree possible; no one is required to ask a question.
- The order for answering questions rotates among the candidates, so the same person is not always “first” or “last.”
- Candidates have two minutes to answer each question.
- Candidates have one minute each for closing statements.
- Voting will be by roll call vote. The Select Board Chair alternates between members of both Boards, asking each their first choice.
- The winning candidate requires a majority of votes of the remaining filled seats on both Boards; absences do not affect this requirement.

Two applicants were introduced- Nancy Schroeder and Shoshona King

Opening Statements:

S. King opened with her introduction followed by N. Schroeder:

Rotating from each of the Boards- each member asked a question that was responded by each applicant.

J. Wald- What is the greatest need you see and how would you address it?

N. Schroeder- new programs, possible land use and search other ideas

S. King- biggest concern is under-housed households

D. Williams- Please share your perception of the roles of a commissioner.  
S. King – Managing the funds – making sure paperwork is correct.  
N. Schroeder- Setting policies for the organization and the supervising the policy of the staff

A Brewer – Based off what you know about the board, what do they do well?  
S. King – Has good consciences members  
N. Schroeder – Board does an excellent job making it feel like a community.

T. Lee – As a commissioner, what role do you see relating to the public?  
S. King – Would be open and honest  
N. Schroeder – Commissioners do have a role providing more public access, Nancy is familiar with a lot of the tenants and has helped many of them so she is easily accessible.

D. Slaughter – Passed on questioning

C. Kruger – How would you handle a call from a tenant or participant?  
N. Schroeder – Tell tenant to call the Executive Director  
S. King – Bring it to the committee, wait for a meeting.

M. Burkart – Priorities going to loan financial times  
S. King – Try to have participants stay houses  
N. Schroeder – In the past when funding was in jeopardy, would make a group decision.

A. Steinburg – If you received a similar call from a community member that there is mismanagement in funds, what would you do?  
N. Schroeder – Would go to chair first, and then there would be an opportunity to have to act.  
S. King – Would not discuss with community member, would bring it up at next meeting.

Closing Statements:

N. Schroeder – Has been a member of other committees and would count on board members to help out, and is very familiar with the Amherst Housing Authority.

S. King – Is eager to learn

The Vote:

**AHA**

M. Burkart	Nancy Schroeder
T. Boutilier	Nancy Schroeder
D. Williams	Nancy Schroeder

**BOS**

D. Slaughter	Abstain
A. Steinberg	Nancy Schroeder
A. Brewer	Nancy Schroeder
C. Kruger	Nancy Schroeder
J. Wald	Nancy Schroeder

Motion: “Move by majority (five) roll call vote to select Nancy Schroeder, a registered voter of the Town of Amherst to perform the duties of a member of the Amherst Housing Authority until December 3, 2018 (or February 4, 2018 under Section 10.9) per Amherst Home Rule Charter dated September 25, 2017, approved by ballot March 27, 2018.”

**AJOURMENT**

Upon motion by T. Boutilier, seconded by M. Burkart, it was voted to adjourn at 6:53.

As presented. Unanimous

\* Materials Included-

Copy of Notice of Vacancy and Process Posting

Letters of Interest- Nancy Schroeder and Shoshona King