

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING VIA ZOOM

TUESDAY MARCH 8, 2022 @ 5:30 PM

I. Called Meeting to Order at 5:30 PM

II. Roll Call

Present:

Tara Cassidy-Driscoll
Cynthia Tennant-Zoom
Catherine Esteverena

Absent:

Richard Callahan

Also Present: Irma Chez, Executive Director/Acting Secretary

III. Minutes of Previous Meeting (s)

Commissioner Esteverena: Presentation of prior meeting minutes
2/15/2022

Motion to accept prior 2/15/22 Meeting Minutes made by Tennant,
Second by Cassidy-Driscoll. All in favor:

Motion passed. Unanimously voted

IV. Tenant/Public Engagement

Journalist - Lynn Item
Joanne Rosen- SSTA
Joan Hubbard-SSTA
Joe Spindler-SSTA
David Grishman
Jill Susarrey

V. Bills and Communication

Financials January - Cash Reserve 38% need 35%
Currently working on late rents - Two families have received
Emergency Subsidy.

Commissioner Esteverena asked about non-budget emergencies.
Director Chez discussed two emergency boiler replacements at
Cherry Street. They were non-repairable. One was \$9,000.

Motion to Accept Bills as presented made by Tennant. Second by

Cassidy-Driscoll.

Motion passed. Unanimously Voted

VI. Report of the Executive Director

Through DHCD ED has procured SHA Emergency Covid Test kits. She was able to get them from Salem HA. We have 3 kits (2 in each kit) per unit. Total 360 Box's. They will be distributed next week. The Whole Foods Pantry Collaborative is going well. There has been a great response from residents. Thank you to the SSTA and the Maintenance Staff.

David Grishman asked if there was anything the town could do to help. Director Chez mentioned 1] a refrigerator and 2] possible volunteers. Commissioner Tennant mentioned that we are currently in a learning phase (1 month trial) and would be better able to know what would be needed for the pantry at the end of the trial period.

All agreed to wait through the trial period before requesting more help. Director Chez discussed the PMR (Property Mgrs. Review) that was done 2 weeks ago. One Board Member currently needs 1 module of training. There was no PMR in 2020 due to Covid 19. They are going through the audits now.

The Director has made contacts and attended a meeting of the new Swampscott Police Mental Health Task Force. She believes it will be helpful to the SHA residents.

She then requested a vote to ok and pay the final steps and bill on the Roof replacements at Cherry St. for a total of \$64,287.

Tennant made a motion to pay; Second by Cassidy-Driscoll.

Motion passed. Unanimously Voted

VII. Old Business

Executive Director Chez brought up the question of ADA compliance of the SHA office as raised at a prior meeting by David Grishman. She has gone to the DHCD Construction Advisor Mr. Leach; and is waiting to hear back.

Commissioner Tennant brought up the fact that this kind of request/inquiry usually takes quite a bit of time to be resolved...and perhaps this is the perfect time for Mr. Grishman

to understand and pass on to other interested parties that dealing with State agencies is a slow process. Mr. Grishman said he understands.

Commissioner Esteverena made mention of the fact that this request was not internal (through a resident, the SHA Board or anyone who had a problem), but was external and had become a matter creating a 'priority'. Commissioner Cassidy-Driscoll stated that we need to be compliant. Commissioner Tennant mentioned that as a 'handicapped' person, she has used the ramp with both a walker and a wheelchair on multiple occasions with no problems. Director Chez stated that she will continue to work on the issue with DHCD.

VIII. New Business

Joe Spindler/SSTA Pres. had none. Joanne Rosen/SSTA mentioned that she had solicited the Stop & Shop re our new food pantry and had been given 500 bags. Com Cassidy-Driscoll asked if we were sending them "thank-you notes." Ms. Rosen told her it had been done.

Comm. Tennant said she had two questions to bring up in New Business that she would like to address to Mr. Grishman as our "appointed" liaison. Sean Fitzgerald had been sent a letter (SSTA) last fall regarding Donna MacDonald's retirement after 31 years with the Housing Authority; because of the Covid 19 disruptions, nothing had been done to acknowledge this. The SHA and the SSTA were planning a small party and requested the town to contribute 1/3 of the cost of a plaque, flowers and the party - and to participate. No response from the Town or from Mr. Fitzgerald was ever received. Tennant asked Mr. Grishman to bring this up with the Town. Director Chez would get him the monetary total involved. The second question addressed to Mr. Grishman was regarding the Select Board Chair. If Ms. Titcomb was now the Chairperson of the

Board, it appears that Peter Spellios is still doing the speaking (publically) and was he still speaking for the Board itself?
SILENCE - NO RESPONSE - David Grishman appears to have left the meeting.

Commissioner Cassidy-Driscoll suggested he perhaps just had to leave the phone for a minute. Commissioner Esteverena suggested Tara act as liaison to get SHA answers - Tennant suggested not and we hold questions till next meeting. Too many liaisons.

Commissioner Tennant asked if any AFTA funds had been allocated to us as of yet; as both Lynn and Revere have received funding per the media and we were still concerned about the generators. Director Chez said she has been in touch with both Donna Brown of NAHRO and DHCD.

Comm. Esteeverena mentioned the upcoming Webinar on the role of DHCD/local Boards/TA's . Comm. Tennant and the SSTA said they were all planning to attend. Comm. Cassidy-Driscoll cannot.

Motion passed. Unanimously Voted

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Esteeverena said, if no other business, she would entertain a motion to adjourn. Tennant made a motion to adjourn; Second by Commissioner Cassidy-Driscoll.

Motion passed. Unanimously Voted

Next Board Meeting: April 12, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Irma Chez", written over a horizontal line.

Irma Chez, Executive Director