



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
SCOTTSDALE HOUSING AGENCY GOVERNING BOARD**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 11, 2024
City Hall Kiva Forum
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Chair Neal Shearer, Vice-Chair Mary Jung, Commission Members Jeff Jameson, Tricia Serlin, Roger Lurie, Patrick Dodds, Stuart Turgel, and Leslie Brownell

STAFF: Mary Witkofski, Community Assistance Manager; Christina Cooley, HCV Supervisor; Heather Earl, Housing Specialist II; Chad Beougher, Housing Supervisor

Call to Order

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak on non-agendized items.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

Approve the regular meeting minutes of November 9, 2023

BOARD MEMBER DODDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 9, 2023, SCOTTSDALE HOUSING AGENCY GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED EIGHT (8) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, AND COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, TURGEL, AND BROWNELL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Special Purpose Vouchers Overview

Christina Cooley, HCV Supervisor, commented that Scottsdale has participated in the Housing Choice Voucher program (Section 8) and has recently taken strides to expand efforts to include programming focused on special populations in the community.

Heather Earl, Housing Specialist II, gave a presentation outlining the City's special purpose voucher programs. Programs include:

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) – Started in May of 2022 and provides housing vouchers to Scottsdale's chronically homeless veteran population. Referrals come directly from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and they provide ongoing case management and services to the participants. VASH vouchers do not expire.

Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) – Started on October 1, 2020, to serve young adults facing homelessness as they age out of the foster care system. The City administers the program in partnership with the State of Arizona Department of Child Safety. Participants 18 to 24 years of age who have left the foster care system or will leave within 90 days are eligible for housing assistance for up to 36 months. Participants who enroll in the Family Self-sufficiency program are eligible for up to five years in hopes that they will transition into the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) – Started in July of 2021 in response to the Covid pandemic. Vouchers serve those experiencing homelessness, near homelessness, or who were escaping domestic violence or human trafficking and are referred through Coordinated Entry System and other partner organizations. Per HUD regulations, no new vouchers will be issued as of September 30, 2023. Vouchers do not expire, but as participants leave, vouchers will not be reissued, and the program will eventually be sunsetted.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Cooley explained that the EHV program is being sunsetted nationally because it was originally put in place as a temporary response to the Covid pandemic. A secondary national rollout of vouchers, called Stability Vouchers, were made available; however, Scottsdale was not granted those vouchers.

Ms. Cooley said that there are other programs available through HUD that can be applied for, and the City is also exploring other opportunities and strategies to work in partnership with homeless service providers within the community.

3. Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board Annual Report

Ms. Witkofski reviewed the Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board Annual Report.

BOARD MEMBER LURIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2023 SCOTTSDALE HOUSING AGENCY GOVERNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT. BOARD MEMBER SERLIN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED EIGHT (8) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, AND COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, TURGEL, AND BROWNELL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

4. Identification of Future Agenda Items

There were no agenda items suggested.

5. Adjournment

BOARD MEMBER SERLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BOARD MEMBER DODDS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED EIGHT (8) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, AND COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, TURGEL, AND BROWNELL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

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