



METROPOLITAN HOUSING TRUST FUND COMMISSION MINUTES

September 22nd, 2020 2-4pm

Members Present: L. Kuhlman, C. Ferrell, C. Sledge, G. Emmanuel, J. Schmitz

Staff Present: H. Davis (Mayor's Office Housing), N. Eke (Metro Legal)

- I. **Welcome**
- II. **Electronic Meeting Rules Notice** – Chair Emmanuel read the electronic meeting rules. Roll call vote offers unanimous approval.
- III. **Review and Approval of Minutes** – Ferrell moves to approve and Sledge seconds. Unanimous approval via roll call vote.
- IV. **Project Progress** – Habitat for Humanity submitted the final draw for the Carter Work Project – Round 5 project. Woodbine submitted the first draw on their Round 7 project. New Level CDC submitted the second draw on their Round 7 project. Westminster, Affordable Housing Resources and Be a Helping Hand all submitted draw requests for Round 5 projects.
- V. **Public Comment (via Q+A feature)** – No comments from public
- VI. **Best Practice Share** – Chair Emmanuel is beginning the practice of sharing a best practice case study, example, or learning to educate the commissioners and public and offer continuing education. This month she shared about a development in Portland that was part

of a competition. She shared about design elements and choices used to encourage sustainability and access.

VII. New Business

a. 1-year progress reports

- i. Grant contracts require 1-year progress reports. Davis provided a summary of round 6 progress reports received to date.

b. Grant timeline discussion

- i. Davis shared about the impacts created by the referendum to pull back the tax increase. Without the planned revenues, Metro government would be pulled back to bare bones offerings. The future is incredibly uncertain at this point. Mayor Cooper's commitment to affordable housing is unwavering but in order to be most respectful of applicant's time, the deadline for the fall RFP may be adjusted based on the Election Commission's determination. Davis will post an update on the Barnes website the week of October 1.
- ii. Commissioners shared opinions about the proposed referendum. Schmitz supports the wise choice to potentially delay the deadline. He also is critical of the referendum and offered an in-depth insight into the cascading impacts the referendum could have on the city. Ferrell echoed these concerns.

c. Regions Grant update

- i. Regions announced the \$250,000 grant to the Barnes Fund. We are working to include this in the 2020 RFP - it requires approval from Metro Council. Davis updated Commission that the process is in motion.

d. Staffing

- i. Davis provided an update on the hiring of the Affordable Housing Manager in addition to staffing timeline. There have been 3 finalists interviewed and Bill Phillips is offering guidance on the candidates. The goal is to introduce the new hire at the October Commission meeting.
- e. FY21 Barnes Grant RFP update
 - i. Davis reminded attendees that the application is open and if the deadline is extended, it will remain open until such time.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Reminder of Census deadline

IX. Adjourn

The Barnes Housing Trust Fund

<http://barnes.nashville.gov>

Metro Housing Trust Fund Commission

<http://www.nashville.gov/Government/Boards-and-Committees/Committee-Information/ID/123/Housing-Trust-Fund-Commission.aspx>