

June 13, 2019 MINUTES

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

9820 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046

HCDB Members Present

Caroline Harper, *Chair*
Maury Zeitler, *Vice Chair*
Grace Morris
Linda Skelton
Mike Sloan

HCDB Members Absent

Mitra Basu

Staff Present

Kelly Cimino, *Director*
Lisa Wiseman, *Division Chief, Housing Opportunities Programs*

Staff Absent

Guests/Visitors

Recording Secretary

Tracy Deik

- I. **CALL TO ORDER 6:35 P.M.** (Board Members were invited to attend *An Evening of Good Taste*, hosted by CAC, from 5-6 P.M. at the Howard County Food Bank.)
 - With a quorum present, Chairperson Harper called the June 13, 2019 meeting of the Department of Housing and Community Development Board to order at 6:35 P.M.
- II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - *Board Member Morris motioned to approve the June 13, 2019 Agenda as submitted. Motion passed 5-0.*
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**
 - No guests were present at the board meeting.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF APRIL 2019 MINUTES**
 - The April 2019 Minutes were e-mailed and mailed to all board members for review and comments. *Vice Chairperson Zeitler motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed 5-0.*
- V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT (attached)**
 - Board members received a copy of the May 2019 Director's Report in advance of the meeting.

- The County Council passed the FY2020 budget on May 29th.
- Howard County's 23.6 cent fire tax increase will affect MIHU pricing & standards beginning July 1st.
- The County's fee-in-lieu rate increased from \$2.42 to \$2.65 per square foot.
- Howard County received a 2019 Achievement Award in the category of Criminal Justice & Public Safety for the Guilford Transition House.
- On May 3rd, Director Cimino attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Laurel Park Station. The mixed-use, transit-oriented development will include over 1,000 new housing units, retail and office spaces.

VI. MIHU REPORT (attached)

- Board members received a copy of the May 2019 MIHU Report in advance of the meeting.
- During April's open-enrollment period, the Department received approximately 100 MIHU applications. 94 persons attended the MIHU homeownership information sessions and 18 persons attended the MIHU rental information session.
- The Department participated in the County's Money Matters Fair on April 28th.
- The Department met with Habitat for Humanity to discuss the possibility of partnering to help qualified, low-income candidates participate in MIHU homeownership opportunities.
- The Board discussed the fact that MIHU resales are increasing and that there is a need for regulation changes to address MIHU resale challenges.

VII. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF JULY 2019 MIHU/LIHU PRICING AND STANDARDS (attached)

- The Board reviewed the July 2019 MIHU/LIHU Pricing & Standards. Due to lower interest rates, an increase in MIHU/LIHU prices was reflected.
- *Board Member Morris motioned to approve the July 2019 MIHU/LIHU Pricing & Standards as submitted. Motion passed 5-0.*

VIII. DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR TESTIMONY- APFO EXCEPTION FOR ROBINSON OVERLOOK

- The Board discussed the Department's request for testimony regarding an APFO exception for Robinson Overlook.
- If developed, Robinson Overlook would provide a total of 48 garden apartments, including 43 affordable rental units (of which 8 would be rented to persons with disabilities) to be leased to households earning an annual income of \$20,000 to \$61,000.
- The hearing will take place on June 17th at 7 pm. Chairperson Harper plans to testify at the hearing, and Board Member Morris plans to submit a written testimony.

IX. DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCACY-COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

- Director Cimino invited the Board to attend a Summer Solstice Success Celebration honoring success and resilience over homelessness. The celebration, hosted by DCRS' Office of Community Partnerships, will take place on June 21st at the North Laurel Community Center.
- Board members were also encouraged to participate in opportunities to serve on committees to support the County's Plan to End Homelessness.

X. DISCUSSION- 2018 RENTAL HOUSING SURVEY

- The 2018 Rental Housing Survey is a detailed assessment of Howard County's rental market which determines availability, distribution and affordability of different types of rental units throughout the County. To view the survey, visit the Howard County Housing Commission's website at www.househoward.org.

XI. MEMBER COMMENTS

XII. ADJOURNMENT 7:20 P.M.

- *Board Member Morris motioned to adjourn the June 13, 2019 HCD Board Meeting at 7:20 P.M. Motion passed 5-0.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Deik

Recording Secretary

***Next Meeting:
Housing and Community Development Board
August 8, 2019***