

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

10400 Detrick Avenue
Kensington, Maryland 20895
(240) 627-9425

Special Session Minutes

September 15, 2021

A Special Session of the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County was conducted via an online platform and teleconference on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, with moderator functions occurring at 10400 Detrick Avenue, Kensington, Maryland beginning at 4:04 p.m. Those in attendance were:

Via Online/Teleconference

Roy Priest, Chair
Richard Y. Nelson, Chair Pro Tem
Pamela Byrd
Jeffrey Merkowitz

Absent

Frances Kelleher, Vice Chair
Linda Croom
Jackie Simon

Also Attending via Online/Teleconference

Kayrine Brown, Acting Executive Director
Christina Autin
Kathryn Hollister
Charnita Jackson
Claire Kim
Ian-Terrell Hawkins

Aisha Memon, General Counsel
Darcel Cox
Timothy Goetzinger
Jennifer Arrington
Nathan Bovelie

IT Support

Aries Cruz

Commission Support

Patrice Birdsong, Special Assistant to the Commission

Chair Priest opened the meeting welcoming all to the Special Session of the Housing Opportunities Commission. The sole item on the agenda was to conduct a vote to meet in closed session pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7), Section 3-305(b)(8), and Section 3-305(b)(13) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Chair Priest read the Written Closing Statement and made a motion to adopt the statement and close the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chair Pro Tem Nelson and Commissioners Priest, Nelson, Byrd, and Merkowitz voted unanimously in approval.

Based upon this report and there being no further business to come before this session of the Commission, the Commission adjourned the open session at 4:07 p.m., and reconvened in closed session at 4:13 p.m.

In compliance with Section 3-306(c)(2), General Provisions Article, Maryland Code, the following is a report of the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County's closed session held on September 15, 2021 at approximately 4:13 p.m. via an online platform and teleconference, with moderator functions occurring at 10400 Detrick Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895. The meeting was closed under the authority of Section 3-305(b)(7), Section 3-305(b)(8), and Section 3-305(b)(13) to discuss and obtain legal advice from counsel about ongoing litigation (pursuant to Sections 3-305(b)(7) and Section 3-305(b)(8)) that is subject to attorney-client privilege (pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(13)).

The meeting was closed and the closing statement dated September 15, 2021 was adopted on a motion made by Chair Priest, seconded by Chair Pro Tem Nelson, with Commissioners Priest, Nelson, Byrd, and Merkowitz voting in favor of the motion. Commissioners Kelleher, Croom, and Simon were necessarily absent and did not participate in the vote. The following persons were present during the closed session: Roy Priest, Frances Kelleher, Richard Y. Nelson, Jr., Pamela Byrd, Jeffrey Merkowitz, Jackie Simon, Kayrine Brown, Aisha Memon, Cornelia Kent, Ian-Terrell Hawkins, Marcus Ervin, Timothy Goetzinger, Zachary Marks, Christina Autin, Kathryn Hollister, Frederick Douglas, Attorney, and Patrice Birdsong.

In closed session, the Commission discussed the below topics and took the following action:

1. **Topic:** Discussion with counsel about ongoing litigation impacting Westwood Tower Apartments (pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7), Section 3-305(b)(8) and Section 3-305(b)(13)).
 - a. **Action Taken:** No action taken.

The closed session was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayrine Brown
Acting Secretary-Treasurer

/pmb

Approved: October 6, 2021