

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2021

Commissioners Present:

Katherine Cobb-Holmes
Stacey Taylor
Zelda Yoder
Karima (Karen) Archie
Richard T. Wagner
Barbara Coffin
Valerie Phelps-Robinson

Absent:

Lisa Blount

Staff Present:

Kimberly Talbot

Guest

Councilwoman Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. The minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Wagner moved and Commissioner Coffin seconded. The minutes were approved.

Executive Director's report

There is a new rental assistance program that has been opened as of March 8th. Please tell people to apply at bceh.org. There is a number of criteria to qualify but it is less restrictive than the program run by RHRC. You have to be below 80% of AMI, qualify for unemployment or have a 20% reduction in income.

Old Business:

The E.D. discussed the need for Commissioners to have an election for officers. Commissioners were in agreement that Commissioner Cobb-Holmes would remain as Chair. Commissioner Yoder volunteered to be vice chair which eliminated the need for elections.

Commissioner Taylor moved to accept the Executive Director's report and Commissioner Wagner seconded. The report was approved.

Commissioner Archie moved to accept the new board seat members. Commissioner Coffin seconded. The motion was approved.

Commissioner Cobb-Holmes announced that Threads of Change made \$2,888.00 during their spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

New Business:

Commissioner Cobb-Holmes reports: 1. The BCIU will be giving out vaccinations to any Berks County school staff from Friday thru Thursday. 2. She was taking a food class at RACC and enjoyed a class with our council liaison Councilwoman Cepeda-Freytiz. Commissioner Cobb-Holmes suggested cooking classes as a bonding opportunity for the group. 3. Bus drivers and bus monitors are in great demand at the BCIU. They are providing sign on bonuses as well.

The Executive Director reminded the Commissioners about her appearance on BCTV, March 22nd at 8:30 p.m.

Training:

None scheduled

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Councilwoman Cepeda-Freytiz reports that due to the impending snow storm parking is free in the parking garages until Monday at 8 a.m.

Commissioner Yoder discussed her concerns about the pan handling ordinance.

Training:

None scheduled

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.