

**Minutes of Meeting of The
Housing Authority of the City of Galveston, Texas
Island Community Center – Community Room
4700 Broadway, Galveston, TX 77551
December 5, 2011; 4:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Galveston, Texas (GHA) met as stated above. Chairperson Massey called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and declared a quorum was present. She further clarified that the meeting was duly posted. The following commissioners were noted present: Betty Massey, Chairperson; James Dennis, Vice-Chairperson; Tom LaRue; Teresa Banuelos, and Dr. Jeff Temple.

Commissioners Absent: None

**Others Present: Mona Purgason, Interim Executive Director
Robert Bastien, Legal Counsel**

Open Public Hearing for CDBG-DR Funding

The Public Hearing was opened at 4:06 p.m.

Deyna Sims-Hobdy, GHA Director of Development, stated that GHA will submit a Public Housing Activities Application for Round 2.2 CDBG Disaster Funding on December 9, 2011. The public was invited to comment between December 1 and 5, 2011. GHA did receive comments via email. The Application is for approximately 84 million dollars to cover the rebuilding of up to 479 public housing units. The Application outlines the strategy for using the funding, including mixed income developments, acquisition rehab, and 50 scattered site units. The Application also outlines the capacity of GHA and the development partner, McCormack Baron Salazar.

Chris Toombs, 9605 Teichman Road, welcomed Dr. Temple to the GHA Board. He further stated that he was dissatisfied with the timing of the Board's vote on the Application since the Board members had not had time to review all of the public comments that had come in prior to voting on the Application. He asked that the vote be deferred until the Board had an opportunity to read the comments. He stated that he had several pages of comments but would mention the highlights.

Mr. Toombs further stated that the continued inference that doing scattered sites or mixed income is fair housing compliant is wrong. He stated that it has to do, not with deconcentration of poverty, but with desegregation. He further stated that deconcentration of poverty is a HUD regulation, desegregation is a fair housing issue, and that the GHA's application confuses the two.

Mr. Toombs stated further that the GHA is asking for an additional 17 city blocks to be moved into tax-exempt status. He referenced Exhibit F, the Project Location Map, which is color coded “recommended” and “not recommended.” He stated that means nothing. He further stated fair housing is about not concentrating poverty, not concentrating ethnicity, and HUD regulations are about deconcentrating poverty. The map says nothing to concentration levels of any of those. The map needs to be redone, as the map is not the entire City of Galveston, but just the city “behind the Seawall.”

Mr. Toombs stated further that on the project summary identifying the clients, the Application mentions the 569 displaced residents; however it fails to mention the number of clients that actually want to return to the Island. It also fails to mention that the majority of those in the original survey said they would accept Section 8 vouchers.

In the Housing Needs Assessment, Exhibit G, Reducing Disproportionate Housing needs, strategy 2.2, equates opposition to public housing with racism. Mr. Toombs stated that he would like that bullet point stricken because it broadly paints those who are against rebuilding the public housing on the Island as racist and smacks of intentionally using race politics.

Mr. Toombs stated further that in the Project Summary, the opposition to the redevelopment of public housing should be described as “Redevelopment Opposition” and not NIMBY, because due to HUD’s Fair Housing Planning Guide, the definition of NIMBY is “community resistance when minorities, persons with disabilities and/or low-income person first move into White and/or moderate- to high-income areas.” Mr. Toombs stated that none of that HUD official definition applies to the situation in Galveston.

Mr. Toombs further stated that part of using CDBG funds is a mandate to overcome impediments, but the Application does not address the remedy for the impediment of the Availability of Land.

Mr. Toombs stated further that he has raised the issue of demographics before. He stated that there is nothing in the Application about similarity indexes, which is the official measurement of racial separation and segregation. He shared HCV demographics that show 79% Black/African-American, 11% Hispanic, 9% White, and 1% Asian. He stated that if the GHA has an affirmative marketing plan, it is non-existent. He stated he will be interested to see what the demographics are now that the Waiting List has been re-opened. He stated that the onus is not just to protect the “protected classes” but to protect everyone. He further stated that the HCV demographics are far out of line with the LMI demographics of the City of Galveston.

Cornelia Banks, 3328 Avenue M, stated that she is on the fair housing committee for the City, and a lot of the things Mr. Toombs stated have been addressed. She indicated that if all of the Board members would get a copy of that, it would tell them how it is being addressed by the City of Galveston.

Laurel Murrell, 4125 Fiddler Crab, stated that she is in support of the mixed income housing as the way to help people get out of poverty.

Deyna Sims Hobdy proceeded to read the email comments that had been received into the record as follows:

I would just like to register another comment in opposition to GHA's plan to rebuild public housing.

Last month the Galveston City Council voted AGAINST GHA's building additional units of mixed income income housing.

The City Council is theoretically elected to represent the people, and with this vote the people of Galveston have finally been heard. In the words of Elizabeth Beeton in a previous council meeting, "If I get one email in favor of public housing, I get 99 against".

Jul Kamen

While few have any hope of derailing GHA's ridiculous plan, I have to add my voice in opposition of building mixed-income projects in Galveston. The City Council gave GHA clear direction when it ordered GHA to rebuild the 569 units required under the conciliation agreement and to abandon plans for overbuilding and overspending on the proposed MBS development.

I encourage you to do what the citizens of Galveston want and the Conciliation Agreement requires. Hire a local developer and limit any proposed rebuilding of public housing in Galveston to the 569 units.

Thank you,

David Collins

I strongly oppose the current GHA plans as they build units in the worst census in the county to desegregate public housing and therefore do not affirmatively further fair housing.

Norman Pappous
GISD Trustee

From YogaBean:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to GHA's plan to rebuild public housing in Galveston:

-in a flood plain, at greater risk to residents, greater expense to taxpayers, and in violation of Federal Executive Order 11988.

-in areas of concentrated poverty and minorities, offering little economic opportunity, poor schools and high crime
-contributing to an oversupply of housing by adding unneeded "mixed income" units in a city with over 7,000 vacancies already.

Instead: Convert everyone to Section 8 vouchers, provide freedom of choice, save the taxpayer's money, and be done.

-- WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE THINKING?

It is always a tough decision whether or not to take the time to submit public comment to the GHA when it is so clearly ignored by the Board. They are on a mission from the Mayor and have no concern for the opinions of anyone who dares to question his vision of a city based on a dependency on federal funding. It is clear that such a city is doomed to perpetual decline and possibly even failure, but they are on a far more important mission and can't be bothered with such mundane considerations!

Chris Toombs has just submitted a very thorough and insightful analysis filling seven pages with objections to your application, so I will not duplicate his effort. There is only one issue that we must focus on from now on: segregation.

All of the hundreds of pages that we have already written showing the many problems with the GHA rebuilding plan boil down to one thing: it is a Cold-War-Era segregation plan. Much effort has been put forth attempting to use a mixed-income plan to disguise the fact that it will continue to segregate low-income minorities in the worst neighborhoods in this city, and some of the worst census tracts in the County; but that is the simple fact of what it will do!

The simplest way to demonstrate how obvious this is when you step back and look at it can be found in the use of the old Cedar Terrace footprint which sits in the worst census tract in the entire County.

This is a place where 64% of the residents live below the poverty level, and where 60% of the residents are Black and 34% are Hispanic. In other words, it is the very definition of the kind of place where housing authorities are not supposed to build Public Housing. The plan to try to hide this segregation with a mixed-income development is simply deceptive and does little or nothing to change the demographics of the neighborhood where they will be located!

Housing authorities are not supposed to build Public Housing in places like this, because it segregates people by income, race, and ethnicity; something that was outlawed by the Fair Housing Act in 1968. You don't need a legal opinion to see that this plan will violate the Fair Housing Act; all that it takes is some common sense and a passing acquaintance with reality.

David Stanowski

The Public Hearing was closed at 4:23 p.m.

Resolutions – Approval of

#2581 –Authorizing the Submittal of the Public Housing Activities Application for Round 2.2 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Funds – Deyna Sims Hobdy stated that the resolution is seeking the approval of GHA’s Round 2.2 Application for Funds to replace the public housing that was destroyed by Hurricane Ike. The approved Method of Distribution allocates approximately 84 million dollars to GHA via the General Land Office. The Application is due on December 9, 2011 by 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Temple stated that he was concerned about the comments that were made by Chris Toombs. He further stated that he does not believe that citizens who are opposed to public housing are racists.

Chairperson Massey stated that the reference to racism was in Attachment G. Commissioner Temple further stated that he would feel disingenuous voting for approval of the Application since there was not ample time to thoroughly read through the Application and that the community had very little time to respond. Furthermore, the Commissioners did not have time to read and digest the public comments.

Commissioner LaRue stated that there was very little about any of the public comments that surprised him, and he felt that he is familiar with the comments because they are similar to what the public has stated before. He further stated that he believed the reference to racism should be struck from the Attachment.

Vice-Chair Dennis stated that he is in support of removing the offensive references in the Application as long as it does not hurt the Application. He made a motion for approval of Resolution 2581. Commissioner LaRue seconded.

Chairperson Massey agreed with Commissioner LaRue and stated that she did not believe that any of the public comments were anything she hasn’t heard before, except for the interesting twist on segregation becoming the issue, which came from a citizen who has supported the City building housing projects on existing housing sites. She stated that the staff and consultants wrote the Application as quickly as they could, given the Application deadline of December 9.

Chairperson Massey stated that the motion was to approve the Application with the removal of the offensive reference to public housing opponents being racist, and the removal of the heading that refers to NIMBY, renaming 7.1 “Public Opposition,” and leaving the text.

Commissioner LaRue stated that he was not sure about the reference to NIMBY and that the definition of NIMBY is not necessarily accurate. He asked that if NIMBY means “Not In My Back Yard,” whose power is it to determine what that means to different individuals. He further stated that it seems to him that the situation of segregation is being twisted, because if Galveston had no minorities, we would have a segregated community, because we would have

segregated all the minorities out of our community. He further stated that he believes, as an educated guess, that Galveston has approximately 40% white population, and about 30% African American, and about 30% Hispanic population. He believes that is a perfect mix, and when you have almost an equal amount of racial groups that make up a community, that is not segregation.

Commissioner LaRue further stated that though he may be responding to the wrong set of demographics, with respect to the residents of public housing, as the majority of them are seniors and disabled. Therefore the reason there is such a high concentration of minorities in public housing is because they predominantly make up the poor. They lack the resources when they become elderly to move off the Island, i.e. move in with their families or retire to the Hill Country. Without resources, they end up in public housing.

Commissioner LaRue also stated that he wanted to mention the census tracts. Cedar Terrace is in a very low-income census tract, granted it borders on a census tract that is downtown Galveston, and that particular census tract has recently gone from low income to moderate income. Census tracts are not designed perfectly, but are like “gerrymandered” congressional districts, and Cedar Terrace just happens to be in the eastern end of what is one of the worst census tracts in the community; However, it is essentially isolated from that part of the census tract because to the west there are water tanks and Cornerstone subdivision, to the south are Central Middle school, historic properties, and Broadway; and to the north, city storage yards. Although Cedar Terrace is in a low income census tract, it has one of the best opportunities to improve the demographics of those three blocks, and have a positive impact on the census tract as a whole, and improve an area that borders on the west side of downtown Galveston and still do it in a way that complies with HUD regulations in not putting back more than 50% of the public housing units that were there before they were destroyed by the hurricane.

Commissioner LaRue stated that he is not swayed by any of the three key arguments, and he has given thought and consideration to each of the three issues.

Chairperson Massey stated that she wouldn't remove the reference to NIMBY. She further stated that it is a statement of fact that there are opponents who believe that public housing should not be rebuilt at all, others believe that some or all should be reconstructed off the Island, and others believe that any housing beyond public housing will have a negative effect on Galveston's rental market. Chair Massey stated that you can call it something other than NIMBY-ism, but it is a pretty factual statement.

Toni Jackson, Legal Counsel, stated that the use of the term NIMBY is standard in the affordable housing world, and that is why it was used in the Application.

Chairperson Massey stated that the motion was to approve the Application with removal of the offensive reference to racism in Exhibit G and anywhere else that it might be found.

Commissioner Temple stated that he would vote in favor of the Resolution; however, he wanted to clarify that he was unhappy with the lack of time for public comment.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos, Temple
Abstentions: None

NAYS: None
Absences: None

#2582 – Resolution of Galveston Housing Authority (The “Authority”) Authorizing the Formation of a Texas Public Facility Corporation (The “Corporation”) and an Instrumentality of the Authority, and Such other Actions Necessary or Convenient to Carry out this Resolution – Toni Jackson, Legal Counsel, stated that the resolution is for the Galveston Housing Authority to create an Instrumentality that is able by Texas statute to do items that the GHA is unable to do by statute. A Public Facility Corporation (PFC) has the ability to loan money, to induce bonds and to do other items for the purposes of affordable housing. HUD currently recognizes related entities for public housing authorities, and the State of Texas further provides for authorities to create entities known as PFCs. The purpose of the entity is due to the mixed income resolutions, and the development that GHA is about to undertake will require the PFC.

Vice-Chair Dennis moved for approval, and Commissioner Temple seconded.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos, Temple
Abstentions: None

NAYS: None
Absences: None

#2583 – Authorizing the Approval for Adopting a Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan – Deyna Sims Hobdy, GHA Director of Development, stated that this resolution outlines the displacement strategy and relocation guidelines that the GHA would implement in the case of persons living in low income housing being displaced. Though the recommendation of the Development Committee is to avoid purchasing any property that is currently being occupied, in the event that happens, there would be a policy in place.

Vice-Chair Dennis moved for approval with the changes discussed in the Workshop, which were removing the heading regarding one for one replacement, and changing the wording to “GHA will attempt to replace all...” Commissioner Temple seconded.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos, Temple
Abstentions: None

NAYS: None
Absences: None

#2584 – Approval of Awarding a Contract for Comprehensive Legal Services – Chairperson Massey stated that GHA has a new procurement officer, and the Commissioners would like to have input on a new RFP. She made a motion to direct the procurement officer to seek the

Commissioners' input and then issue a new RFP for Legal Services subsequent to that. Vice-Chair Dennis seconded. The vote was unanimous.

#2585 – Authorizing the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners to Enter Into and Execute a Settlement Agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. – Robert Bastien, Legal Counsel, stated that the resolution is to authorize settlement of a District Court lawsuit that was filed against Wells Fargo subsequent to Wells Fargo's foreclosure of a property on which GHA had previously foreclosed in the Cornerstone II development. Mr. Bastien further stated that the previous homeowner had left town after Hurricane Ike and ceased making payments to Wells Fargo. Wells Fargo agreed to let GRACE Corporation purchase the house for the amount for which it foreclosed on the property in November of 2009. GHA staff has inspected the property and determined a figure for rehabilitation.

Vice-Chair Dennis moved for approval of Resolution #2585, and Commissioner LaRue seconded.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos, Temple	NAYS: None
Abstentions: None	Absences: None

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 4:55 p.m. and reconvened into the open meeting at 6:07 p.m. Commissioner Temple was noted absent.

Resolutions – Approval of

#2586 – Authorizing the Interim Executive Director or Designee to Enter into Option Agreements for the Purchase of Certain Properties Within the City of Galveston for the Scattered Sites Initiative

Commissioner LaRue moved for approval, and Vice-Chair Dennis seconded.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos	NAYS: None
Abstentions: None	Absences: Temple

Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2011

Vice Chair Dennis moved to approve the minutes as written from the Special Meeting of November 18, 2011 and Commissioner LaRue seconded.

The following vote was recorded:

AYES: Massey, Dennis, LaRue, Banuelos	NAYS: None
Abstentions: None	Absences: Temple

Financial Statements

BIL Bruney, GHA Finance Director, reviewed the Financial Statement as of October 31, 2011. He stated that on the Consolidated Financial Statement, which encompasses Funds 20-59, Total Operating Revenue Year-To-Date is \$9,964,124, and Total Operating Expense Year-To-Date is \$9,958,975. On the Statement of Net Assets, the Total Assets is \$46,243,287, and the Total Liabilities and Net Assets is \$46,243,287.

Mr. Bruney stated that on the Check Register, the largest expense was to McCormack Baron Salazar for \$131,252.40 and the smallest was to Comcast for \$2.23. The total expenses for the month's checks was \$595,499.02. Those are for operating expenses only.

The Voucher Management System (VMS) report states the total leased and total HAP payments.

Commissioner LaRue asked about the Central Office Cost Center (COCC, Funds 1-5). He stated that grant management fees were budgeted into the original operating budget. The Year-to-Date budget is \$26,000 positive and the Annual Budget is \$107,000 positive, but \$205,000 negative in the COCC. Commissioner LaRue asked if there was funding that GHA has yet to receive. Mr. Bruney answered that there is a \$25 million grant that has not yet been received, for which GHA expected to have grant management. Commissioner LaRue asked if this cost center typically operates at a deficit or if there were additional expenses this year that are reflected in this budget that wouldn't be there in a typical year.

Mr. Bruney stated that the COCC has been solvent up to this point, but there are certain changes that are currently occurring, including fees from DHAP management, that have been substantially reduced.

Commissioner Banuelos asked what the money in the ROSS Grant is spent for, and Mr. Bruney stated that he would get that information.

Secretary's Report

Resident Services – JoAnn Cavazos, Resident Services Coordinator, stated that Resident Services will be receiving some reconfigured cell phones from the Family Service Center which will be given to residents who have no phone or who are frail. The phones only dial 911. Resident Services has identified about 54 residents thus far who are in need of the phones, and they will be distributed by the end of the week.

Ms. Cavazos further stated that in November, Resident Services had a lot of activities going on, including the Health Fairs with the Jesse Tree, Frontera Medical students from UTMB, the Holland House Health Fair where there were 88 people in attendance, and the Gulf Breeze Health Fair where there were 95 people in attendance. The attendees also received their Thanksgiving dinner from St. Vincent's House. The Thanksgiving luncheons were very successful at both Holland House and Gulf Breeze.

The Holland House Christmas Party will be held December 14 from 4 to 7 p.m., and the Gulf Breeze Christmas Party will be December 19 from 12 to 2 p.m. The residents at Holland House will decorate their doors for a contest during the Holidays. Residents and staff also decorated the lobby.

In addition, there will be a mall trip for residents to finish their Christmas shopping, as well as caroling, courtesy of West Point Baptist Church, at Gulf Breeze. There will also be caroling at the Holland House Christmas party courtesy of the Satori School students. Cigna Home Health will also be doing Christmas caroling.

Commissioner Banuelos inquired as to whether there was any literature yet available in Spanish, and Ms. Cavazos stated that staff is working on translation.

Modernization – Deyna Sims-Hobdy stated that Holland House is being modernized. Painting is complete on Floors 2, 3, and 4, and the cabinets have been installed on Floor 5. Delivery of the remaining cabinets is not yet complete. Electrical work is also being done on the second floor of Holland House.

Chairperson Massey asked when the work is estimated to be completed, and Ms. Sims-Hobdy responded that it should be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2012.

Section 3 – Courtney Beck stated that Section 3 is up to 230 participants who are either certified or in the process of being certified. Of those 230, 53 are DHAP participants, 12 are former public housing residents, and 28 are Section 8 residents. Section 3 is continuing to get 4-6 people a week that want to be a part of the program.

Ms. Beck further stated that since construction on Scattered Sites is going to begin in February or March, she wants to make sure that the Section 3 participants are fully trained and ready for the ten full-time positions and four training opportunities that will be available to the participants. In addition, Section 3 Coordinators are meeting with tier one and tier two individuals; tier one participants are low income public housing residents nearest the site, and since there is no site, it automatically goes to tier two, which is any public housing or Housing Choice Voucher resident. There are 62 who are Section 3 certified, and the staff is conducting 20 minute interviews with those participants; in addition, the Section 3 staff is conducting 2-3 hour sessions with someone from the Community Advisory Board interviewing participants, so the participants can understand the commitment and the nature of the work (construction).

Ms. Beck stated that Section 3 has just procured Darrel Samuels to do a 4-6 week training with 30-40 participants. Participants will be getting OSHA Certified, as well as getting their Beginners National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Certificate. In addition to those certifications there will be training on time management, interview skills, conflict resolution, and handling barriers to employment.

Chairperson Massey asked for more information on Darrel Samuels. Ms. Beck stated that Mr. Samuels has been training for over 23 years and is a Master Trainer for OSHA as well as NCCER.

Ms. Beck went on to review the progress on GHA's Section 3 Policy. She stated that GHA received a document from Texas Low Income Housing Service, advocated for by Gulf Coast Interfaith and other service organizations on the Island, called "Critical Elements for a Successful Section 3 Plan." The first draft of the Section 3 Policy was done in April, and most people were not happy with it. Ms. Beck stated that she went to Washington, DC to find out about their policy and practices, and from there she drew up a policy that mirrored the successful Washington policy. During that time local advocacy groups were also working on their suggestions based on their critical elements for success. On October 19, another draft was submitted to the advocates. There were not many changes made to the actual policy; however, Ms. Beck stated that she questions what can be put into the policy to ensure that GHA is meeting and exceeding the requirements, which can be sustainable from year to year.

As an example, Ms. Beck explained the funding may change for Section 3 from year to year. As a further example, the requirement for a Community Advisory Board may set an unattainable requirement in the future, as community participation and interest may change from year to year.

Ms. Beck further stated that there has not been any feedback on the Policy as of yet from the community advocacy groups. She further stated that the Section 3 program is already doing eight of the nine things that the community advocacy groups have requested, though they are not written into Policy yet.

Chairperson Massey stated that she had visited recently with Mr. Trasviña and Sarah Pratt from HUD in Washington, and they had indicated that someone from Dallas may be reviewing GHA's Section 3 Policy. Chairperson Massey and Joe Compian indicated that they would send emails to Ms. Pratt regarding the feedback.

Chairperson Massey asked if the Board could have a budget update, and Ms. Beck stated the budget had a \$250,000 original allocation. To date, a total of \$62,000 has been spent; this includes the salaries of the two individuals and one training. She further stated that Section 3 would also spend an additional \$18,000 on the upcoming training that will provide 30-40 individuals the certification in OSHA and NCCER.

Vice-Chair Dennis asked about the progress of the MOU with the City of Galveston on Section 3. Ms. Beck indicated that since the GHA's Section 3 Policy was not yet finished, the MOU was not completed.

PIO – Chairperson Massey stated that there were a number of Open Records Requests that the PIO has been filling, including travel expenses and insurance proceeds. She further stated that the Communications Committee has been working on answering the questions that were posed by the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and the City of Galveston; they are close to having it completed. Chairperson Massey stated that she and Deyna Sims-Hobdy would be presenting the answers at an upcoming meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as providing them to the City via email.

Chairperson Massey further stated that there is a press conference at 10:00 a.m. on December 13 with the Galveston Historical Foundation (GHF) to announce the homeownership program that GRACE has entered into with GHF.

Other – Mona Purgason stated that GHA Staff and Yvette Camel-Smith and her team did a fantastic job on the opening of the Section 8 Waiting List. The process went very smooth and just under 2,400 people signed up. She further stated that some of the community partners came and met with GHA Staff and helped with outreach to the benefit of the clients.

Committee Reports – Human Capital Committee – Deyna Sims-Hobdy stated that there would be a meeting on December 7 where the draft human capital plan would be reviewed. She further stated that it would be further reviewed by the Health and Human Services Subcommittee of the Community Task Force. She further stated that Staff hopes to bring the Human Capital Plan to the Board for a vote on January 23, 2012.

General Public Comments – Joe Compian of Gulf Coast Interfaith spoke on behalf of the NAACP Unit 6138, Galveston County Coalition for Justice, the Northside Task Force, and the Coalition for the Homeless, who were all involved in discussions on Section 8 and Housing Choice. He offered profound thanks to Yvette Camel-Smith and Mona Purgason, who agreed to meet with them. He further stated that the organizations he mentioned have a wealth of experience regarding these issues, and they approach them with the utmost respect for the members of public and assisted housing. They receive calls every day from individuals who say to them, “People hate us for living in public housing, or enrolling for assistance with Housing Choice Vouchers.”

Mr. Compian stated that he and their organizations try to overcome and give people hope, and certainly the effort that was made by GHA was done with respect. He expressed his thanks to the Commissioners for enabling the GHA Staff to make this happen.

Chairperson Massey also thanked Yvette Camel-Smith and her staff.

Commissioners’ Comments – Chairperson Massey stated that the next meeting would be on the 19 of December, and asked if everyone would be agreeable to meeting at 10 a.m. that day.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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