The Board of Commissioners of the Niagara Falls Housing Authority (NFHA) met in a Monthly Board Meeting session on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 4:00pm at 744 Tenth Street, Niagara Falls, NY. Chair Giancola called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Mr. Jason Cafarella

Present:

Also Present:

Absent:

Mr. Gerald Cracknell Mr. Clifford Scott

Mr. James Swift Mr. Roger Lis

Mr. Earl Bass Ms. Colleen Todd

Mr. Brian Archie, Sr.

Mrs. Maralynn Giancola

At the Request of the Executive Director: George Dreer, Eric Fields, Angela Smith, Samika Sullivan,

Melissa Attfield

### I. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

To begin the meeting, Chair Giancola asked the Board to go forth and lead by example with the intentions of peace and harmony in their community.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Swift, seconded by Commissioner Todd and carried, the May 9, 2023 annual and special meeting minutes of the Board of Commissioners were approved.

# III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was duly made by Commissioner Cracknell, seconded by Commissioner Todd to approve the consent agenda for the meeting held June 13, 2023. The motion was unanimously carried.

## IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

V.

Chair Giancola congratulated the Authority's legal counsel on winning the "Attorney for the Child" award, and welcomed Commissioners back from a training conference in Denver, Colorado.

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Scott explained that HUD and the Office of the State Comptroller had done separate compliance reviews and found the Authority was in good shape with no major issues or non-conformities. He then gave the floor the Mr. Allen Booker, who gave an update on his college planning program for the board.

Mr. Booker discussed with the board that there was previous confusion regarding responsibility for outreach, as well as the target demographic. After identifying that with the help of the NFHA, Mr. Booker would take an active role in finding clientele for the program, it was proposed to revise the contract so that the program was restricted to NFHA residents. A motion was made by Commissioner Swift, seconded by Commissioner Archie and carried (Yay: Swift, Archie, Giancola,

Bass, Cracknell **Nay**: Todd) to approve Resolution No. 2023-48. Upon further discussion, it was decided to amend this to a 75%-25% ratio, 75% being Authority residents, 25% being other low-income area residents, and to review the results of this decision at the September Board meeting. On a motion duly made by Chair Giancola, seconded by Commissioner Todd and unanimously carried, Resolution No. 2023-48 with the proposed amendments was passed.

Next discussed were the statement of policy revisions. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Archie, seconded by Commissioner Todd, and unanimously carried, Resolution No. 2023-49 was approved.

A recommendation for award of contract for tree removal at Jordan Gardens and adjoining properties was brought before the board. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Swift, seconded by Commissioner Todd, Resolution No. 2023-50 was unanimously approved.

Upcoming training was presented to the board for approval, and procurement procedures were briefly discussed. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Bass, seconded by Commissioner

Cracknell and unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-51 was passed by the board of Commissioners.

Approval of HOTMA policy change, Resolution No. 2023- was next discussed. On a motion made by Commissioner Swift, seconded by Commissioner Todd and unanimously carried, Resolution No. 2023-52 was passed.

Lastly revision of a previous amendment to the bylaws was addressed. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Archie, seconded by Commissioner Cracknell and unanimously carried, Resolution No. 2023-53 was approved.

#### VI. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Cafarella reported that they were holding off on evictions in Cornerstone Village to keep occupancy numbers steady.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Todd, seconded by Commissioner Archie. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:43pm

2