

LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONS BOARD
Wednesday, May 4, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
301 King Street, Chet and Sabra Avery Conference Room
Alexandria, VA 22314
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bonnie Naugle at 7:05PM.

A. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elliott Waters, Razvan Cernucan, Geri Baldwin, Bonnie Naugle, Elijah St. Dennis, Katherine O’Connell, Olivia Jenkins

B. BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

C. STAFF PRESENT: Melodie Seau, Kenneth Turscak, Gwendolyn Lassiter (Remote), Samuel Gates (Remote),

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Vice Chair Elliott Waters moved to approve the agenda as presented. Elijah St. Dennis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING: Vice Chair Waters moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting with corrections. The motion was seconded by Elijah St. Dennis and passed unanimously.

4. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: Chairperson Bonnie Naugle said that she had spoken to Councilman McPike who was curious about how the Board worked. She discussed the Board and said she looked forward to working with him on issues in the community. Vice Chair Waters suggested inviting the Councilman to attend a meeting.

Vice Chair Waters discussed two motions and his May 2022 Report.

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/LTRBApril2022_SeeSomethingSaySomething_Motion.pdf

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/LTRBApril2022_AdvisoryCouncils_Motion.pdf

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/LTRB_May2022WatersReport.pdf

After discussion, the Board adopted the following on a motion by Katherine O’Connell, seconded by Olivia Jenkins.

“Based in part on Dr. Krysten Moon’s article, “The African American Housing Crisis in Alexandria, VA during the 1930s-1960s” which provides evidence of sanctioned policies

and practices that systematically denied people of color identified as African American residents' access to housing not denied to other people of color identified as Caucasian Americans during the 1930s-1960s, we ask that the City of Alexandria verify and acknowledge this with intent to correct the harm.”

The motion carried with Razvan Cernucan abstaining.

Elijah St. Dennis moved to table the second motion regarding advisory councils. The motion was seconded by Razvan Cernucan and passed unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF THE LTRB BYLAWS

The Board reviewed the bylaws and agreed to a further review in June.

6. STAFF REPORT: Melodie Seau distributed maps of affordable housing and a copy of the City's guide to committed affordable housing which clarifies the notation on the maps.

Ms. Seau said that a bill would allow the City to take landlords into court over violations of the Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act was vetoed by the governor.

Ms. Seau said distributed and discussed an article regarding regional rent increases.
https://patch.com/virginia/oldtownalexandria/how-alexandrias-rent-prices-changed-last-year-listing-site?utm_source=share-mobile&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=share

Ms. Seau distributed and discussed an article related to AHDC's project in Arlandria.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2022/05/01/alexandria-catholic-church-affordable-housing/>

Ms. Seau distributed a report by the Urban Institute discussing proximity of affordable housing and the impact on property values in Alexandria.
<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/assessing-impact-affordable-housing-nearby-property-values-alexandria-virginia>

7. OTHER BUSINESS: None

8. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM.