

MINUTES  
Housing Authority of the Town of Darien  
April 24, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the Town of Darien was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 in Room B-1 of the Darien Town Hall, 2 Renshaw Road, Darien, CT.

Present were: Commissioners Cynthia Ashburne, Jan Raymond, Joe Warren and Kass Bruno;  
Absent: Jan Pierret.

Minutes from the Meeting of March 27, 2012 were approved without objection.

The Paid Bills Reports for Old Town Hall Houses for April 2012 (through April 18th) and Allen-O'Neill Homes for April 2012 (through April 18th) were accepted as submitted on a motions by Joe Warren.

Executive Director's Report: Cynthia Ashburne gave the Executive Director's report in Kathryn Molgano's absence.

Tenant Commissioner Election: Jan Raymond reported that the election will take place on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The polling places will be in the Community Room at 719 Post Road for residents of Old Town Hall Houses, and in the corridor of the Town Hall for Allen-O'Neill residents. Results will be announced at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Commissioners thanked Kass Bruno for her years of service as DHA's Tenant Commissioner.

Alarms at Old Town Hall Houses: Simplex Grinnell was successful in identifying and correcting an electrical problem in the alarm system whereby activation of the call for aid switches was interfering with the operation of the fire alarm system. It was determined that both the call for aid switches and the fire alarms were connected to the same circuit and overloading the system. The problem was corrected. The technician from Simplex recommended that the outdoor horns and strobes, which have been in operation for 23 years, should be replaced. (The main panel of the fire alarm system was replaced in 2010). Simplex quoted a price of \$3,969 to replace the 11 existing outdoor horns and strobes that are mounted on the outside of the buildings with new, weather proof combination horn/strobe devices. The price includes labor and materials. By consensus, the Commissioners approved the proposal to replace the equipment. DHA staff will verify that charges for the repair of the electrical overload problem are not included in the quote.

Redevelopment Update: John McClutchy reported that we are moving forward on budget and on schedule. The Contractor is finishing construction of the curtain drain and we will be moving ahead with the abatement. The relocation process has gone very well with positive resident feedback expressing appreciation for the help they received from DHA staff, Arthur Anderson & Housing Education Resource Center. Cynthia Ashburne added that only one household from Phase I has not yet been relocated, but their destination relocation housing will be available for renovations by Friday, and their move will be scheduled shortly thereafter.

Fire Training Drills: Joe Warren commented that we are still hopeful that the local fire departments will be able to utilize some of the vacant buildings for training drills. He further commented that insurance issues should be resolved tomorrow.

Website: John McClutchy reported that the website will be up in a few days. A sample of the website can be viewed at [www.heightsdarien.com](http://www.heightsdarien.com).

Allen-O'Neill Association: The AONA leaders will be meeting with Kim McLaughlin on May 1<sup>st</sup> and will notify the new Tenant Commissioner of the meeting.

Senior Resident Association: No report.

New Business: Cynthia Ashburne discussed recent correspondence received from the Baptist Church in which they generously offered to assist Old Town Hall Houses residents with repairs. Cyndy had polled the Commissioners by email for their thoughts on this. The consensus of four of the five commissioners (one commissioner did not respond) was that, while the offer was extended in good faith, commissioners were not in favor of the group taking on repairs at the facility. Maintenance of these rental units is the responsibility of DHA and under their control.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on a motion by Joe Warren.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Ashburne  
Chairman