

MINUTES OF THE HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Friday, March 12, 2021

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners (“Board”) of the Houston Housing Authority (“HHA”) was held on Friday, March 12, 2021, via telephone conference pursuant to the March 16, 2020 Notice issued by the Office of the Texas Attorney General and in accordance with the applicable portions of the Texas Open Meetings Act. The U.S. toll-free number was 1-888-475-4499, the local number was 1-346-248-7799 and the meeting identification number was 882 8262 4987.

Chair Snowden called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Secretary Thiele called the roll and declared a quorum present. Chair Snowden offered the use of an interpreter, who has been instructed to be on teleconference as well and will be available to Spanish speakers who may need assistance for public comments only. Our interpreter was not yet on the call. Chair Snowden asked to be notified once that person has logged in.

Present: LaRence Snowden, Chair
 Kristy Kirkendoll, Vice Chair
 Kris Thomas, Commissioner
 Andrea Hilliard Cooksey, Commissioner
 Stephanie A.G. Ballard, Commissioner
 Mark Thiele, Secretary
 Dr. Max A. Miller, Jr., Commissioner
 Guillermo “Will” Hernandez, Commissioner

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Snowden stated, this is an opportunity for the public to provide comment on any of the resolutions before us today. If an individual would like to make public comments at this time to press *9 to raise your hand for your question or comment. Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes for public comments. Speakers will only be allowed to speak once. I will inform you when your three minutes have expired. The Board will generally not provide responses to the comments or answer any questions. However, HHA residents making comments are encouraged to clearly state their name and the property where you reside. We will have someone from the property management team or from our staff, will reach out to you directly regarding any issue or concern you may have.

Chair Snowden asked if there are any individuals that would like to make public comments at this time.

Will Garwood is a Houston business owner and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Claire Hopper is a resident of Houston 77009 and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Joseph McGuire is a resident in Seattle and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Deidra Barrett is a resident of Third Ward and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Evie Procter is a resident of Montrose and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Debbie Smith is a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

(Name Unknown) is a nursing student and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Madison (last name unknown) is a native Houstonian and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Cooke Kelsey is a resident of Houston and is a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Nathan Smith is a resident of Standard Heights and is a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

(Name Unknown) is a resident of Houston and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Molly Cook is a resident of Montrose and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Mai Nguyen is a resident of the Heights and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

George Barrow is a resident of Woodland Heights and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Susan Graham is a resident of Houston 77009 and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Karina Barbosa is a resident of Houston and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Trey (last name unknown) is a resident of Houston and a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Johan (last name unknown) is a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Neal Ehart is a resident of Fourth Ward and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

(Name Unknown) is a resident of Fifth Ward and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Marsha Brown is a supporter of Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

David Espinoza is a resident of North Houston and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Austin Lewellen is a resident of Montrose and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Kendra London is a resident of Fifth Ward and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Katie Chrisman is a resident of Houston and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Stephanie (last name unknown) is a resident of Houston and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Melissa Martinez is a resident of Houston and is against Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245.

Chair Snowden stated before we move into New Business, please note for the records, Commissioner Max Miller joined us at 2:17 p.m. during the Public Comments. Our Spanish interpreter joined us at that time as well.

We will now move forth with the New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 3244: Consideration and/or possible action authorizing a resolution superseding Board Resolution Nos. 3163 and 3164 and authorizing the Interim President & CEO or designee to create “Jensen PFC,” a public facility corporation for, among other purposes, ownership of property located on or about the southwest corner of Jensen Drive and Clinton Drive, Houston, TX 77020, and to approve and ratify the Certificate of Formation of the Corporation and adopt bylaws.

Secretary Thiele stated that Resolution No. 3244 and Resolution No. 3245 will be presented by Mr. Cody Roskelley, Vice President of Real Estate and Development.

Mr. Roskelley stated that the Houston Housing Authority Board of Commissioners authorizes the Houston Housing Authority to create Jensen PFC, a public facility corporation, and take any other actions necessary or convenient to carry out this resolution, pursuant to the memorandum from Cody Roskelley, Vice President of REID to Mark Thiele, Interim President & CEO of the Authority, dated February 4, 2021. Staff recommends that the Board adopt this resolution.

Chair Snowden stated the Board has heard the resolution presented by Mr. Roskelley and asked for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 3244.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Resolution No. 3244. Commissioner Ballard seconded the motion.

Chair Snowden asked if there is any discussion or objection to approve Resolution No. 3244. Having none, Resolution No. 3244 is adopted.

Chair Snowden stated we will now move to Resolution No. 3245.

Resolution No. 3245: Consideration and/or possible action authorizing a resolution superseding Board Resolutions Nos. 3165 and 3166 and authorizing the Interim President & CEO or designee to take all actions necessary or convenient to facilitate the development of the property known as Standard at Jensen located on or about the southwest corner of Jensen Drive and Clinton Drive, Houston, TX 77020, including but not limited to determining the scope of the development (e.g., phasing, number of units, etc.) and to ratify and confirm all prior actions taken by the Interim President & CEO or his designee in connection with the same.

Mr. Roskelley stated that the Houston Housing Authority Board of Commissioners authorizes the Interim President & CEO or designee to take such actions necessary or convenient to facilitate the development of the Standard at Jensen (the “Project”), pursuant to the memorandum from Cody Roskelley, Vice President of REID to Mark Thiele, Interim President & CEO of the Authority, dated February 4, 2021. Staff recommends that the Board adopt this resolution.

Chair Snowden stated the Board has heard the resolution presented by Mr. Roskelley and asked for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 3245.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Resolution No. 3245. Commissioner Cooksey seconded the motion.

Chair Snowden asked if there is any discussion or objection to approve Resolution No. 3245. Having none, Resolution No. 3245 is adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Snowden stated, because this is a Special Board of Commissioners meeting, I do not think there is a need to convene into Executive Session. The Board will meet again in two weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Snowden stated I do not know of any items, Secretary Thiele, for Executive Session. If that is the case, I would like to ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Cooksey moved to adjourn. Commissioner Ballard seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Chair Snowden concluded by stating, thank you to everyone who came out today to join us for this Special Board Meeting. As we continue to be transparent in the work that we are doing and making sure that we continue to provide affordable housing throughout the City of Houston. As we continue to do this work, I am sure that the discussions that we will have, and will continue to have, and look forward to having them with the various entities, both the advocates and those that claim to be advocates for our residents. We like hearing that because we encourage people to be a part of helping us to move affordable housing forward in this city. We can tell by the discussion, by each of the individuals that appeared before us today, that there is a need for affordable housing. The racism that we see existing, we will continue to work against, because, as I always say, housing affordability is needed across this city, in all neighborhoods and it is a must that we stand together in working for this. We are looking forward to working with those individuals. We make sure that our residents are our first, second and third priorities and I encourage you to continue to adhere to that.

Thank you everyone for joining us today. Have a great weekend.