

NHLWAA Board of Director's Meeting
Draft Minutes
4/25/24

Board members in attendance: Todd Marsh, Pat Murphy, Karen Emis-Williams, BJ Parker, Ellen Tully, Charleen Michaud, Lynn Goodwin, Trish Caruso

Absent board members: David Balian, Natalie Darcy, Bob Mack

Minutes 4/25/24: Submitted by BJ Parker

The Board of Directors meeting called to order at 9:24 AM.

Minutes 3/21/24: Pat made a motion to accept the minutes as written that was seconded by Charleen. Karen mentioned that the minutes should include who was absent and that she was absent on 3/21/24. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ellen made a motion to accept the Feb 2024 treasurer report that was seconded by Trish. The treasurer report was approved unanimously.

President's report:

- Todd continues to engage with municipalities and gets four or five calls a month on the average.
- Todd has been in regular communication with providers, namely CAP and Waypoint, of late. There was discussion that CAP stopped paying water bills under the HAF program. There was further discussion about utilities. Pat Murphy requested agenda items for utility meetings, but nobody had concerns for discussion.
- Todd reported that while testifying recently, Elliott Barry, former managing attorney for NHLA, pulled him aside to voice his gratitude to the board for positive changes he is noticing in our work.
- Todd testified re: HB1115, the law that has to do with ending the lease at the end of lease term. The bill is currently a workgroup session with the Senate Commerce Committee. Todd said he raised committee awareness about the likelihood that tenants will be hesitant to request needed repairs if this law were to pass.
- He submitted an article to Town and City Magazine re: high budgets associated with the housing crisis.
- Updated RSA 165:1-c-SB110: Language was added to the new model reimbursement form/invoice, the Model Welfare Guidelines and the Art of Welfare reminding welfare directors to be particularly mindful of confidentiality when applying this law in DV cases.

Committee Reports

Legislative Affairs:

- Dave and Bob were absent.

- SB 406: 2.5 million dollars is now being distributed to shelters. Initially it was coming to municipalities, then it changed to CAP and now it's planned for shelters. This shows how much bills can change over time. Much of our suggested language remains in the bill.
- It was noted that there has been increased communication in meetings about working with undocumented immigrants and refugees.
- HB 1115: Initially was not supported by House committee but was supported by the House. Now it is in the Senate Commerce Committee workgroup.
- SB 563 has to do with Squatter's rights. A handout of talking points created by NHLA was handed out.

Pat warned that she has seen leases with terms that say they will not accept 3rd party payments.

Ellen Tully suggested that we remind folks to distinguish between a town voucher and Section 8 vouchers because sometimes that can help.

Training Committee:

- It was noted that the training scheduled for 6/19/24 falls on Juneteenth and some welfare offices are closed including Manchester, Concord, Hooksett and Allenstown. Todd will ask the group today how many have that holiday off.
- Committee is going to pay the full cost of food for the training.

Survey Ad Hoc Committee:

- The second survey went out. Board members liked that it had fewer open-ended questions. 30 responses have been received already. They are still working to determine why some didn't get the first survey. Paper copies of the second survey will be distributed today.

Standard Practice SB110 Ad Hoc:

- Covered above

Nomination Committee

- Pat made a motion to nominate Angela Martin-Giroux to the board of directors. Approved.

Adjournment: Charleen gave a motion to adjourn and Ellen Seconded it. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

BJ Parker