



City of Ann Arbor

Formal Minutes

Renters Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Thursday, March 16, 2023

7:30 PM

Electronic Meeting

Broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN
Public comment can be made by calling 877-853-5247 Meeting ID: 935 8080 1941 or via Zoom by joining the meeting at: a2gov.org/RentersCommissionMeeting

1 **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Zackariah Farah called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM

2 **ROLL CALL**

Staff present:

John Reiser, City of Ann Arbor Senior Assistant City Attorney

Kristen Vander Lugt, City of Ann Arbor Clerk's Office

Derek Delacourt, City of Ann Arbor Community Services Area Administrator

Lisha Turner-Tolbert, Building and Rental Housing Services Unit Manager

Chris MacFarland, Code Compliance Official and Manager of Rental Housing Services

Commissioner Chen attended the meeting from in Hangzhou, China

Commissioner Roumel attended the meeting from Ann Arbor Township, Michigan

All other members attending the meeting from the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Present: 12 - Robert P Kelly, Hannah Cohen Smith, Zackariah Farah, Dandan Chen, Lucy Peterson, Travis Radina, Nicholas Roumel, Cynthia Harrison, Jaymie Tibbits, Geoffrey Lowes, Jordan Else, and Robert Droppleman

Absent: 1 - Gayle Rosen

3 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Moved by Lowes, seconded by Peterson to approved the agenda as presented.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Moved by Farah, seconded by Roumel, to amend the agenda to include discussion and action on a Resolution to recommend approval of an amendment to Chapter 105 relating to requiring carbon monoxide detectors in rental units.

Amendment to agenda approved unanimously

The agenda was approved as amended unanimously.

4 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

4-A **23-0469** Minutes of the February 16, 2023 Renters Commission Meeting

Attachments: 2-16-2023 Renters Commission Minutes.pdf

Moved by Cohen-Smith, seconded by Lowes, approved unanimously as presented and forwarded to the City Council.

5 **FIRST GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER**

Public comment can be made by phone at 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099 Meeting ID: 935 8080 1941 or via Zoom by joining the meeting at: a2gov.org/RentersCommissionMeeting

Kylie Saxton, Ann Arbor, MI, requested that the Renters Commission consider reviewing incentives for landlords to make sustainable improvements to rental units in the City of Ann Arbor.

Ken Garber, Ann Arbor, MI, expressed support for the ban of natural gas in new residential units.

6 **BUSINESS**

6-A [23-0458](#) Presentation: Rental Housing Services

Attachments: Updated Renters Commission- Questions for Rental Housing for 3-16-2023 Meeting w Rental Housing Responses.pdf

Received and Filed

6-B [23-0455](#) Discussion: Memorandum Regarding Enforcement Processes and Challenges for Right to Renew and Early Leasing Ordinances

Attachments: 230215 Memorandum Regarding Enforcement Issues and Right to Renew Early Leasing Ordinances.pdf

Reviewed and Filed

6-C [23-0456](#) Action Item: Resolution in Support of an Ordinance to Ban Natural Gas Connections

Attachments: Resolution in Support of an Ordinance to Ban Natural Gas Connections in New Construction and Major Renovations.pdf

Moved by Farah, seconded by Peterson, to approve the Resolution in Support of an Ordinance to Ban Natural Gas Connections

Motion to Postpone:

Moved by Farah, seconded by Tibbits, to postpone decision on the Resolution in Support of an Ordinance to Ban Natural Gas Connections to the April 20, 2023 Renters Commission meeting.

Approved Unanimously

6-D [23-0663](#) Action Item: Resolution in Support of an Amendment to Section 8-527 of Chapter 105 (Housing Code) to Require Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Moved by Farah, seconded by Chen to approve the Resolution in Support of an Amendment to Section 8-527 of Chapter 105 (Housing Code) to Require Carbon Monoxide Detectors

On voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.

Yeas: 6 - Farah, Chen, Peterson, Roumel, Tibbits, and Lowes

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 - P Kelly, Cohen Smith, and University of Michigan Student Legal Services Liaison Rosen

Moved by Lowes, seconded by Tibbits, to postpone remaining business items and reports to the April 20, 2023 Renters Commission meeting.

Approved Unanimously.

- 6-D** [23-0457](#) Discussion: Discussion of Remedies Related to the Apartment Waitlist issue, Informed by the Waitlist Report
- Attachments:** Draft Report - Waitlists for Rental Units in Ann Arbor.pdf
- POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023**

Received and Filed

- 6-E** [23-0468](#) Discussion: Recent Snowstorms and Renter Impacts
- Attachments:** 2022-HIB-6043.pdf, Legislation Details (With Text) (2).pdf, washtenaw-county-ice-storm-power-outages-resolution.pdf
- POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023**

- 6-F** Discussion: Establishing a Liaison to the Housing and Human Services Advisory Board
- POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023**

- 6-G** Discussion: Plan for April 20, 2023 Renters Commission Meeting
- POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023**

7 **REPORTS**

- 7-A** Report from City Council
- POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023**

7-B Report from HHSAB Liaison

POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023

7-C Report from Staff Liaison

POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023

7-D Reports from Commissioners, Committees, and/or Work Groups

POSTPONED TO APRIL 20, 2023

8 SECOND GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

8-A Public comment can be made by phone at: 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099 Meeting ID: 935 8080 1941 or via Zoom by joining the meeting at: a2gov.org/RentersCommissionMeeting

Ken Garber expressed support for the resolution to support banning natural gas in new developments.

9 COMMUNICATION

9-A [23-0464](#) Various Communication to the Renters Commission

Attachments: Waitlist Response Letter.pdf, Email from Gabrielle.pdf,
Email from Sarah.pdf

Received and Filed

10 ADJOURNMENT

Unanimously adjourned.

Commission public meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. These meetings provide opportunities for the public to address the Commission. All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed to: City Clerk's Office, 301 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Requests need to be received at least two (2) business days in advance of the meeting.

Renters Commission meeting agendas and packets are available from the Legislative Information Center on the City Clerk's page of the City's website (<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>). These meetings are typically broadcast on Ann Arbor Community Television Network Comcast 16 / AT&T 99 live at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM