

DRAFT MINUTES

Housing and Human Services Advisory Board (HHSAB)

May 11, 2023

6:30 PM-8:30 PM

This will be a digital meeting. Members of the public may participate electronically in the meeting or by phone.

Zoom link: <https://washtenawcounty.zoom.us/j/83784962121?pwd=VXpMWGgrdIV6ZU9wSEFNK1hMVGRaZz09>

Meeting ID: 837 8496 2121 | Passcode: 758842

Members Present: Sky Woodman, Brenna McMahon, Jean Leverich, Chris Watson, Amanda Carlisle, Anna Foster, Brett Lenart, Linh Song, Anna Erickson, James Daniel

Members Absent: Emily Canosa, Karen Wanza, James Downing, Paul Sher

Staff Present: Tara Cohen, Karen Newman, Morgan Boydston

I. Convene Meeting - Skylar Woodman, Chair 6:43 pm

II. Introductions as Needed

Tara Cohen, OCED, Scio Township, Washtenaw County
Skylar Woodman, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Breanna McMahon, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Jean Leverich, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Karen Newman, OCED, Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County
Amanda Carlisle, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Chris Watson, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Morgan Boydston, OCED, Wayne County
James Daniel, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Anna Foster, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Brett Lenart, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Linh Song, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County
Anna Erickson, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Skylar Woodman, Seconded by Amanda Carlisle. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of March Minutes

Moved by Amanda Carlisle, Seconded by Jean Leverich. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Business

- a. Presentation (Morghan Boydston Williams)
- Homelessness Response
 - New Human Services Partnership

Q: Anna Foster: Are mini grants available to those who received funding last year?

A: Morgan Boydston: Yes

- b. Presentation: Ann Arbor Zoning & Affordable Housing Incentives (Brett Lenart, Planning Manager, City of Ann Arbor)

Q: Anna Foster: There is a shift from 2009. With a timing issue regarding the economy, big changes, ...[zoning efforts should not be considered an abject failure]. Unpredictable economic fallout. What can we do to anticipate future issues?

A: Brett Lenart: There were drastic economic shifts that happened. Zoning is a living document, and it should be revisited. The big failure is the lack of new housing.

Q: Chris Watson: Is it not working out because you are telling people their land is not worth as much?

A: Brett Lenart: [Need to look at the ways our] regulatory framework affect the economy...

We are not meeting our goals with housing. We need to broaden our focus to get more housing.

Q: Amanda Carlisle: Should we remove the premium?

A: Brett Lenart: No

Q: Chris Watson: Are sustainability features worthwhile?

A: Yes, that is what we do now.

- c. Draft Resolution on Use of Marijuana Excise Tax Rebate (**POSSIBLE ACTION**) (Anna Foster)

- This item stems from previous HHSAB discussions around the County Mental Health & Public Safety Millage.
- See attached packet for draft resolution provided by A. Foster.

The group lost quorum just before reaching this agenda item, but based on the group's support of the resolution language she had drafted, it was recommended that HHSAB's support language still be shared with the full Council in lieu of a formal resolution.

[Note: Councilmember Watson confirmed that the document from HHSAB was included in the Council's May 15th meeting agenda under section E. the Clerk's Report of Communications.]

VII. Updates

- a. HHSAB Appointments/Reappointments (Tara Cohen)
- At May 1st City Council meeting, Mayor Taylor presented HHSAB nominations for both reappointments and new appointments, now slated for confirmation by City Council at their May 15th regular meeting.
 - Reappointments include: Amanda Carlisle, James Downing, and Anna Erickson. New 3 year term will end May 31, 2026.
 - New appointments include:
 - Peter Slutzker – Partial term ending May 31, 2024
 - Ellen Rabinowitz – Term ending May 31, 2026

- a. Recruitment for a New Liaison to Renters' Commission (Tara Cohen)
- Core meetings occur on third Thursday each month at 7:30pm on Zoom
 - Meetings typically last about 2 hours
 - Due to heavy committee activity, unlikely for Renters Commission members to be interested in attending HHSAB but staff offered to gauge interest.

No one on HHSAB is interested in serving as liaison currently.

VIII. City Council (Council Member Update)

Chris Watson shared the following items:

- Eviction, wraparound services and food are the three priorities for the marijuana excise tax rebates. Approximately \$250,000 will be given for each priority.

Per Linh Song, there will be a few budget proposals that split the 1 million dollars in different ways. She is working on final language for upcoming Council meeting.

IX. General Updates -

Amanda Carlisle shared that a WHA advocacy alert would be emailed out the next day to provide information about 3 bills being heard by MI Senate Committee the following week. People are encouraged to send cards of support to the clerk for these bills, as they would provide "source of income" protection across the state. Currently Michigan law does not clearly prohibit landlords from discriminating against renters based on their sources of income (e.g. housing choice vouchers, veterans' benefits, alimony, MDHHS cash assistance, SSI/SDI).

X. Public Comment – None.

XI. Adjournment - Moved by Amanda Carlisle Adjourned at 8:46 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: July 13 at 6:30 p.m. | Location: Remote (Zoom)