

Meeting Minutes

Public Housing Authority Commission

Regular Meeting

June 24, 2024, | 6:00 p.m.
Chandler City Council Chambers
88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hartke at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Commissioner Attendance

Chairman Kevin Hartke
Vice Chairman OD Harris
Commissioner Angel Encinas
Commissioner Christine Ellis
Commissioner Mark Stewart
Commissioner Matt Orlando
Commissioner Jane Poston
Commissioner Lisa Loring

Appointee Attendance

Joshua Wright, City Manager
Kelly Schwab, City Attorney
Dana DeLong, City Clerk

Scheduled/Unscheduled Public Appearances

None.

Consent Agenda and Discussion

1. Approval of Minutes
Move the Public Housing Authority Commission approve the Public Housing Authority Commission regular meeting minutes of May 6, 2024.
2. Resolution No. HO179 Approving the City of Chandler Housing and Redevelopment Family Self Sufficiency Action Plan Effective July 1, 2024, and Certifying Compliance with the Related United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations
Move Public Housing Authority Commission pass and adopt Resolution No. HO179 Approving the City of Chandler Housing and Redevelopment Family Self Sufficiency (FSS)

Action Plan Effective July 1, 2024, and Certifying Compliance with the Related United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Regulations, and Further Directing All Other Action Necessary to Carry Out the Purposes of this Resolution.

LEAH POWELL, Neighborhood Resources Director, presented the following presentation.

- 2024 Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Action Plan
- Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program
 - FSS is a voluntary initiative to assist families in achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency
 - Open to both Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Programs
 - 5 –7 year program with 4 years as the average length
 - HUD provides funding for two FSS Specialist positions
- FSS Program Components
 - Participants' Goals Include:
 - Education and job training
 - Money management
 - Career advancement
 - Improved life skills
 - Preparation for homeownership
 - Interest-bearing escrow account
- Recent Accomplishments
- 2024 Accomplishments
 - Nine graduates
 - Average household income increase from \$22,302 to \$115,036 (416% increase)
 - 4 College degrees
 - One new homeowner
- Success Stories
- John
 - Earned GED and becoming certified behavior health technician
 - Gained full-time employment
 - Using escrow to purchase home
 - Both daughters pursuing careers in medical field
- Judith
 - Promoted from CNA to Designated Care Provider
 - 193% increase in income
 - Daughter enrolled in college nursing program
- Jasmine
 - 113% Increase in income
 - Earned Master's Degree
 - Purchasing first home
 - AZNAHRO/AHADA Award of Excellence Recipient

COMMISSIONER ELLIS asked how many people are on the waiting list to join the program.

MS. POWELL said at least 20 people, and sometimes it is even double the amount that can be served.

COMMISSIONER ELLIS asked about shortening the program to expedite exits and reduce the backlog. There are condensed education programs that can be completed in 18 months to two years and asked to investigate this option.

MS. POWELL said the biggest challenge is having only two staff members who can handle 60 cases each. They can explore other available programs for educational pursuits and welcome partners to provide training for families. The main challenge is the time families take to achieve their goals.

COMMISSIONER ELLIS asked about shortening the five-year program to increase the number of partners involved.

MS. POWELL said the program is five years, but the average duration is currently four years. Some families have extenuating circumstances and may need more time. Efforts are ongoing to improve the program, and the department is seeking community partners to provide more support.

COMMISSIONER ELLIS thanked Ms. Powell and her team for their excellent work on the program, and making the program a priority.

MS. POWELL thanked Commissioner Ellis for the support and commented that Chandler had more graduates than other cities in the last couple of years.

VICE CHAIR HARRIS said when a constituent needed support, the team got on it immediately and was able to help them find the housing they needed for their family. Vice Chair Harris expressed gratitude for the team, encouraging them to keep up the excellent work and continue moving forward.

CHAIRMAN HARTKE said it was inspiring to hear these amazing stories and to see individuals pursue their goals. He expressed gratitude to the city for allowing the program to positively impact the lives and futures of many generations.

3. Resolution No. HO180 Authorizing the Submission of a Certification to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for its Desire to Renew the Designations of 127 North Kingston Street (Kingston Arms Apartments) for Occupancy by Elderly or Near Elderly Families
Move Public Housing Authority Commission pass and adopt Resolution No. HO180 Authorizing the Submission of a Certification to the United States Department of Housing

and Urban Development for its Desire to Renew the Designations of 127 North Kingston Street (Kingston Arms Apartments) for Occupancy By Elderly or Near Elderly Families.

4. Resolution No. HO181, approving the Eleventh Amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Chandler and Maricopa County authorizing a two-year lease extension for space in the recreation building at 660 S. Palm Lane, Chandler, Arizona, for use as a Head Start Facility
Move Public Housing Authority Commission pass and adopt Resolution No. HO181, approving the Eleventh Amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Chandler and Maricopa County authorizing a two-year lease extension for space in the recreation building at 660 S. Palm Lane, Chandler, Arizona, for use as a Head Start Facility.
5. Resolution No. HO182, Approving the Tenth Amendment to the Lease Agreement between the City of Chandler and Maricopa County Authorizing a Two-Year Lease Extension for Space in the Recreation Building at 130 N. Hamilton Street for use as a Head Start Facility
Move Public Housing Authority Commission pass and adopt Resolution No. HO182, Approving the Tenth Amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Chandler and Maricopa County authorizing a two-year lease extension for space in the recreation building at 130 N. Hamilton Street for use as a Head Start Facility.

Consent Agenda Motion and Vote

Commissioner Loring moved to approve the Consent Agenda of the June 24, 2024, Regular Public Housing Authority Commission Meeting; Seconded by Commissioner Orlando.

Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

ATTEST: *Dana R. D'Long*
City Clerk

Kevin Harthe
Mayor

