

## **MESA HOUSING SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD**

March 29, 2007

The Mesa Housing Services Governing Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 29, 2007 at 7:31 a.m.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT	BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Keno Hawker, Chairman Rex Griswold Kyle Jones Claudia Walters Mike Whalen William M. Egan, Sr.	Scott Somers Tom Rawles	Christopher Brady Debbie Spinner Barbara Jones

Chairman Hawker excused Boardmembers Somers and Rawles from the entire meeting.

1. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the Mesa Housing Services' Streamlined Five-Year Plan.

Chairman Hawker announced that this is the time and place to discuss the Mesa Housing Services' Streamlined Five-Year Plan.

Acting Community Revitalization/Housing Director Kit Kelly advised that staff would make a single presentation under agenda item 1. She introduced Housing Services Coordinator Debbie Cooke who displayed a PowerPoint presentation (a copy is available for review in the City Clerk's Office) to provide an overview of the items being presented for consideration by the Housing Services Governing Board.

Ms. Cooke reviewed the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program, which is designed to promote self-sufficiency and assist the elderly and disabled population. She reported that the City presently has an allotment of 1,522 Housing Choice Vouchers and 1,722 applications on the waiting list.

Ms. Cooke stated that the requested Board action is approval of the 2007-2008 Annual Plan and the update to the 2005-2009 Five-Year Plan and adoption of the 2007 Payment Standard Schedule and the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) Security Policy. She highlighted the following information:

2005-2009 Five-Year Plan

- The goals remain unchanged

- Staff is reviewing the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to determine the availability of additional vouchers.
- The City will continue to apply for the Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Grant, which funds two City positions: the Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator and the Home Ownership Coordinator.

#### 2007-2008 Annual Plan

- The Plan addresses program management, for which the City received a high performance rating of 99 percent from HUD for the current year.
- A trial program, the HOME-funded Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA), is being eliminated, and the participants are being transitioned into the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

#### 2007 Payment Standard Schedule

- HUD requires the Governing Board to adopt a resolution regarding the Payment Standard Schedule.
- HUD annually determines the Payment Standard Schedule based on fair market rents in the Phoenix-Scottsdale-Mesa area and the rates are the same as in the prior year.

#### Enterprise Income Verification Security Policy

- HUD is requesting that the Governing Board adopt the policy, which enables staff to access the HUD on-line national database as a means of deterring fraud. Staff would be able to access the Social Security numbers and Medicare and employment information for the City's clients.

Ms. Cooke summarized that Board approval of these items enables continuation of the Section 8 Housing Program, which represents an influx of \$9 million to the local economy.

In response to a question from Boardmember Walters, Ms. Cooke advised that the majority of participants are elderly and/or disabled who remain on the program indefinitely. She stated that other families typically remain on the program for two to seven years, although HUD does not impose a time limit.

Ms. Kelly advised that Section 8 Program participants are required to be City of Mesa residents or individuals or families that are displaced as a result of government action, such as the use of eminent domain in order to construct a freeway or the sale of a property.

Responding to a question from Chairman Hawker, Ms. Kelly stated that in the event the City sold the Escobedo property, these residents would receive a higher placement on the Section 8 waiting list for rental assistance.

Lucille Galini, 432 North Williams, a disabled participant in the Section 8 Housing Program since 2001, addressed the Governing Board. She stated that without Section 8 assistance, ninety to ninety-five percent of her disability benefit would be expended for rent, utilities and food. Ms. Galini said that she represents 475 disabled Section 8 Program participants who require affordable housing. She said that as a participant in the Section 8 Housing Program, rent

accounts for only thirty percent of her disability benefit, which enables her to function in society as a consumer. She requested that the Governing Board approve the Five-Year Plan.

There being no additional citizens present wishing to speak on this issue, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

2. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the Mesa Housing Services' Streamlined Annual Plan.

Chairman Hawker announced that this is the time and place to discuss the Mesa Housing Services' Streamlined Annual Plan.

There being no citizens present wishing to speak on this issue, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed.

3. Take action on a resolution authorizing approval and submission of the Streamlined Five-Year Plan.

It was moved by Boardmember Walters, seconded by Boardmember Jones, that Resolution 07-1 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Egan-Hawker-Griswold-Jones-Walters-Whalen  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Rawles-Somers

Chairman Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present and Resolution 07-1 adopted.

4. Take action on a resolution authorizing approval and submission of the Streamlined Annual Plan.

It was moved by Boardmember Egan, seconded by Boardmember Jones, that Resolution 07-2 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Egan-Hawker-Griswold-Jones-Walters-Whalen  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Rawles-Somers

Chairman Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present and Resolution 07-2 adopted.

5. Take action on a resolution authorizing approval of the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) Security Policy for 2007.

It was moved by Boardmember Walters, seconded by Boardmember Griswold, that Resolution 07-3 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Egan-Hawker-Griswold-Jones-Walters-Whalen  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Rawles-Somers

Chairman Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present and Resolution 07-3 adopted.

6. Take action on a resolution authorizing approval of the 2007 Payment Standard Schedule.

It was moved by Boardmember Walters, seconded by Boardmember Egan, that Resolution 07-4 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Egan-Hawker-Griswold-Jones-Walters-Whalen  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Rawles-Somers

Chairman Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present and Resolution 07-4 adopted.

Boardmember Egan expressed appreciation for his reappointment to the Governing Board, and he complimented City staff for their efforts.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Mesa Housing Services Governing Board Meeting adjourned at 7:48 a.m.

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KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Mesa Housing Services Governing Board Meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 2007. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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