

**CITY OF BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
209 CITY HALL**

**MEETING DATE:** September 26, 2019

**MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT:** Council President Darius Pridgen  
Brendan R. Mehaffy, Executive Director of Office of Strategic Planning  
Timothy Ball, Corporation Counsel  
Commissioner Donna Estrich  
Council Member Joseph Golombek  
Council Member Christopher Scanlon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mayor Byron Brown (City Business)  
Mr. Domenic Bonifacio

**SECRETARY:** Scott C. Billman

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Yvonne McCray, BURA Director of Housing, Tracy Cooley BURA  
Deputy Director of FCA, Tremeeka Norman, Deputy Director of  
Housing, Brenda Durfee, Maria Scinta, Theresa Farrell, Rob Gilray, Pam  
Jarmon-Walker, Leslie Vishwanath, Joanne Kearns Harold Cardwell,  
Tremeeka Norman, Robert Mootry - Mount Olive Development Corp,  
Pastor William Gillison - Mount Olive Development Corp, Rev. Dwayne  
Gillison - Mount Olive Development Corp, Stephanie Simea – Heart of  
the City

- 1.0 Mr. Mehaffy called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.
- 2.0 Commissioner Estrich made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the June 27, 2019 meeting, seconded by Council Member Scanlon and carried unanimously.

3.0 **HOME**

**Agenda Item 3a. Trinity One Apartments (Negative Declaration and Funding) Mount Olive Development Corp. (MODC) – Developer**

Agency members approved a request to allocate \$1,357,058 in HOME funds to Trinity One Apartments located at 919-921 East Delavan Avenue. The funds will be allocated to the developer or an entity formed by the developer for the specific purpose of the completion of the project.

Trinity One Apartments is a \$2.3 million dollar project that involves the substantial rehabilitation and conversion of a vacant 17,000 square foot 2-story masonry building into eight (8) units of affordable housing.

The Mt. Olive Development Corporation (MODC), established in 1998, is a not-for-profit community development agency devoted to addressing the economic, social and education needs of residents on the East Side of Buffalo. Founded by Dr. Pastor William Gillison, the agency continues to offer services to improve the social and environmental conditions in the Northland Corridor and Delavan/Grider communities of the Masten District.

**Council President Pridgen made the motion to approve the Negative Declaration and Funding for Item 3a, seconded by Council Member Scanlon and carried unanimously.**

**4.0 REAL PROPERTY DISPOSITIONS**

**Agenda Item 4a – Authorization to Transfer 265 Abby Street**

Agency members approved a request to transfer the City of Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency's (BURA) property located at 265 Abby Street (Real Property) to Gwendolyn Pettigrew for \$1.00 and no more. Ms. Pettigrew will pay the closing costs.

Authorization is therefore requested, subject to Common Council approval, to transfer 265 Abby Street for \$1.00 and no more and authorization is given for the Agency to enter into any necessary documents to effectuate the transfer of the Real Property, subject to Agency legal counsel review and approval.

**Council Member Scanlon made the motion to approve Item 4a, seconded by Mr. Ball and carried unanimously.**

**5. Other Business**

**Agenda Item 5a - Retention of Outside Counsel to Perform the Dissolution of the Buffalo Neighborhood Revitalization Corporation (BNRC)**

Agency Members approved a request for the City of Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency (BURA) to be given authority to enter into a contract with Harris Beach, PLLC to provide legal services to dissolve the Buffalo Neighborhood Revitalization Corporation (BNRC). Based on the initial cost estimate provided by Harris Beach, PLLC, legal fees are estimated at approximately \$25,000.00. However, issues may arise during the dissolution process that would increase overall costs of dissolution.

The anticipated Scope of Services will include Harris Beach, PLLC providing special legal counsel to the BNRC. This includes, but is not limited to, establishing a dissolution protocol; ensuring all necessary approvals and filings are in place to effectuate the dissolution; representing the BNRC in NYS Supreme Court and the NYS Attorney General's Office; and provide legal advice related to all aspects of the dissolution process.

**Commissioner Estrich made the motion to approve Item 5a, seconded by Mr. Ball and carried unanimously.**


**6. Agenda Item 6 a, b,c - BURA Housing FCA and Planning Updates (Informational Only)**

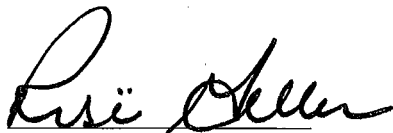
Director Yvonne McCray, Division of Housing, Tracy Cooley, Deputy Director of FCA and Keith Lucas, Director of Planning provided Divisional reports to the Board.

There being no further business to discuss, Council Member Scanlon made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Estrich and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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Scott C. Billman, Secretary

  
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Reported by: Risë Geller