

**CITY OF BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2022**

Meeting held via Webex video conference at the following link:
<https://cityofbuffalourbanrenewalagency.my.webex.com/cityofbuffalourbanrenewalagency.my/j.php?MTID=m46424a878e3d4cacf2ba89b0cd423e84>

Meeting Audio was made available via the following number and access code:

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Access code: 182 379 3191

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Byron Brown
Council President Pridgen
Commissioner Donna Estrich
Cavette Chambers, Corporation Counsel
Council Member Golombek
Council Member Nowakowski

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brendan R. Mehaffy

SECRETARY: Scott C. Billman

OTHERS PRESENT: Yvonne McCray, BURA Director of Housing, Jenna Bichler, BURA Director of Operations, Tracy Cooley, BURA Deputy Director of FCA, Jessica Brown, Director of Administration & Finance, Maria Melchiorre, Christine Marino, Tony Chestnut, Pam Walker-Jarmon, Evelyn Rodriguez, Julia Dutka

1. Mr. Mehaffy called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.
2. Council President Pridgen made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the February 24, 2022 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Estrich and carried unanimously.
3. **FINANCIAL CONTROL OF AGENCIES (Informational)**
- 3a. Ms. Cooley, Director of FCA (Financial Control of Agencies) provided a fiscal update to the Board.
4. **HOME**
- 4a. **HOME Loan for West Side Homes and approval of Negative Declaration**

Pursuant to Section 617 of New York State's Environmental Quality Review Act, the proposed action is an "Unlisted" action for which BURA has completed an environmental assessment. In accordance with Section 617.7 of the regulations, the impacts resulting from the proposed action will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Council President Pridgen made the motion to approve the Negative Declaration seconded by Council Member Golombek and carried unanimously.

Agency members approved a request to allocate an amount not to exceed \$520,000 in HOME funds for the project to the developer, or an entity formed by the developer for the specific completion of the project at 217 Massachusetts; 223 Massachusetts; 625, 629, 633 and 635 West; 146 and 148 Rhode Island; 172 and 174 Hampshire; 176 and 178 Congress; 297 Parkdale; 301 Parkdale; 338 and 340 Parkdale; 225 West Delavan; 422 Fourteenth; and 412 Massachusetts. \$20,000 of the not to exceed amount will be utilized for Project Delivery Costs. The Buffalo Neighborhood Stabilization Company Inc (BNSC), the housing development arm of PUSH Buffalo, proposes to develop a forty-nine (49) unit \$20 million dollar affordable rental housing project on Buffalo's West Side. The project was conceived to align with BNSC and PUSH Buffalo's organizational missions to create sustainable housing, community facilities, and living wage jobs for West Side residents. The project includes four (4) substantially rehabilitated units in two (2) buildings and twelve (12) newly constructed buildings on twelve (12) sites consisting of 2-4 family homes and small multi-family buildings. The unit breakdown will include eight (8) one-bedroom apartments, seventeen (17) two-bedroom apartments, eighteen (18) three-bedroom apartments, and six (6) four-bedroom apartments. BNSC is partnering with Best Self Behavioral Health to designate sixteen (16) apartments for homeless individuals and families with a substance use disorder or serious mental illness. Seven (7) units will be HOME assisted.

Motion made by Council Member Nowakowski to approve the allocation of funds for item 4a seconded by Council President Pridgen and carried unanimously.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Brown made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Corporation Counsel Chambers and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Scott C. Billman

Scott C. Billman, BURA Secretary

Reported By: Risë Geller