

CITY OF BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

**Board Of Directors Meeting
Minutes of Thursday, July 11, 2024**

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Meeting was held in Room 902 City Hall
and available via Microsoft Teams**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** BURA Vice Chairman, Brendan R. Mehaffy
Council President Christopher Scanlon
Commissioner Delano Dowell
Corporation Counsel, Cavette Chambers
Council Member Joseph Golombek
Council Woman Zeneta Everhart
Ms. Rashida Dowell
- ABSENT:** Mayor Byron Brown, BURA Chairman – Excused
- SECRETARY:** Scott C. Billman
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Hope Young Watkins, BURA Senior Director, Yvonne McCray, BURA Director of Housing, Tracy Cooley, BURA Director of Finance, Joanne Kearns, Pam Walker-Jarmon, Evelyn Rodriguez, Ronald Dixon, Tashene Eubanks, Jermaine Jackson, Brandon Baxter, Anthony Chestnut, Jessica Jowrey

- 1.0** Vice Chairman Mehaffy called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.
- 2.0** Ms. Dowell made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the May 23, 2024 meeting, seconded by Council President Scanlon and carried unanimously.

3.0 **MONTHLY REPORT**

3.1 **FINANCIAL CONTROL OF AGENCIES UPDATE**

Commissioner of Administration, Finance, Policy and Urban Affairs, Delano D. Dowell Sr., provided an update to the Board.

4.0 **ACTION ITEM/NEW BUSINESS**

4.1 **875 LAFAYETTE WITH NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

BURA Board members were requested to and did approve the SEQR Negative Declaration (determination of no significant impact on the environment. Prior to the implementation requirements of the N.Y. State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) must be satisfied. The project is an "Unlisted Action" for which BURA has completed an uncoordinated environmental assessment that was submitted, in accordance with Section 617.7 of the regulations, that the impacts resulting from the proposed action will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Motion made by Council Woman Zeneta Everhart to accept and approve the Negative Declaration, seconded by Commissioner of Administration, Finance, Policy and Urban Affairs, Delano D. Dowell Sr., and carried unanimously.

875 LAFAYETTE ACQUISITION AND DISPOSITION

Agency Members approved a request to allocate an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 in HOME funds (and \$20,000.00 of the not to exceed amount for Project Delivery Costs) to be allocated to the developer, or an entity formed by the developer for the specific purpose to complete the project at 630 Linwood Avenue/875 Lafayette. Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. is proposing to develop a \$35.5 million-dollar affordable housing project.

Motion made by Council Woman Zeneta Everhart to approve Item 4.1, seconded by Commissioner of Administration, Finance, Policy and Urban Affairs, Delano D. Dowell Sr., and carried unanimously.

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5.0 UPDATES

5.1 CITY HALL 9TH FLOOR RECONFIGURATION

Mr. Brandon Baxter, Special Project Manager, provided an update to the Board.

5.2 COMMUNITY CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Brandon Baxter, Special Project Manager, provided an update to the Board.

5.3 725 HUMBOLDT PARKWAY

Mr. Brandon Baxter, Special Project Manager, provided an update to the Board.

5.4 BURA REAL ESTATE

Mr. Brandon Baxter, Special Project Manager, provided an update to the Board.

5.5 667 MAIN/664 WASHINGTON

Ms. Hope Young Watkins, BURA Senior Director, provided an update to the Board.

6.0 Executive Session - None

7.0 Adjournment (Action)

There being no further business to discuss, Corporation Counsel Cavette Chambers made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council President Christopher Scanlon and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Scott C. Billman
Scott C. Billman, BURA Secretary

Reported by: Risë Geller