PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

COMMUNITY MEETING

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Minutes taken at the PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY QUEEN LANE REDEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY MEETING, taken at the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 5333 Pulaski Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19144, on Thursday, May 10, 2012, beginning at approximately p.m., before Michele Matteo, RPR, CCR, License Number 30X100171200.

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		Page 2
1	APPEARANCES:	
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4	Michael Johns	
5	Rylanda Wilson	
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Page 3 1 2 MR. JOHNS: Good evening, 3 everybody. Welcome again to the meeting 4 that we have here on a regular basis 5 with the Housing Authority. I am Michael Johns. 6 7 8 (Whereupon, a discussion was held 9 off the record.) 10 11 MR. JOHNS: Again, good evening 12 and welcome to the meeting that the 13 Housing Authority holds on a regular 14 basis to talk about the Queen Lane 15 project and the -- and sort of what's 16 been happening. 17 My name is Michael Johns. 18 the general manager for community 19 development and design for the 20 Philadelphia Housing Authority, and 2.1 we're glad to be here to just give you 22 an update. I have to warn you, though, 23 that there's not a whole lot of 24 information that we have, because

Page 4 1 there's not anything really that has 2 occurred through the process since the 3 last time that we met. And so we're 4 going to tell you what we know and sort 5 of go from there. 6 But before we get started, as we 7 always do, is the -- Pastor Hasty has 8 been very generous in allowing us to use 9 this sanctuary, the church, to hold 10 these meetings. So I'll ask the pastor 11 if he would come up and give us a word 12 of prayer to get this meeting started. 13 Thank you. PASTOR HASTY: Good evening, 14 15 everyone. We thank you for coming out 16 again on this our annual meeting. 17 thank you one and all. 18 Gracious Father, we thank you for 19 this unique time and unique opportunity 20 for community members, friends, and 2.1 neighbors to come out be to be a part of 22 this ongoing progressive meeting. 23 pray that you will bless our hearts and 24 our minds in Jesus' name, amen.

how in these transformed communities

Page 6 1 crime is definitely on the decline, 2 where, in communities where there have 3 been high crime rates. After we've done 4 the work that we do, there's virtually 5 no crime in those communities. 6 By building houses, we create 7 jobs. We talked about our Section 3 8 program and our workforce development 9 programs. We've talked about the tax 10 credit process and how we rely on 11 funding from the State to allow us to --12 to add to the funds that the Housing 13 Authority has and that private investors have so that we can create new 14 15 affordable units that are mixed income 16 and mixed finance. 17 The proposed schedule. We have 18 talked about the schedule. We will 19 continue in these meetings to apprise 20 everyone of upcoming activities that are 2.1 scheduled, activities, just as a for 22 instance, when the high-rise is taken 23 down, then we'll talk about that process 24 several weeks leading up to that.

	Page 7
1	jobs are going to be advertised, we'll
2	talk about that process long before that
3	happens, to give people ample
4	opportunity to be ready for the
5	activities that are going to happen as a
6	result of the revitalization.
7	We had a session on community and
8	supportive services, and we got really
9	good feedback from residents about that.
10	We had a charette on the
11	development of the site, when we asked
12	people what it was that they wanted to
13	see on the site, what kind of housing
14	and what the housing should look like,
15	the density of the housing, also. We
16	talked about the implosion. We had the
17	contractors come way, way, way ahead of
18	the schedule that we would normally
19	have, but because people were expressing
20	these concerns in these meetings about
21	taking the building down. We had our
22	demolition contractor and all of his
23	staff here to talk about the implosion,
24	what it means, how it happens. They

	Page 8
1	showed a film about it so that we could
2	dispel some of the rumors and some of
3	the concerns that people have. And as
4	we get closer and closer to demolition,
5	then we'll have more and more
6	opportunity to bring those contractors
7	back and to answer any additional
8	questions about that process.
9	We had our Section 3 coordinator
10	come and describe what Section 3 is as
11	far as jobs go and as far as businesses
12	in the immediate community, how they can
13	be involved in the revitalization.
14	And we've had the archeologist
15	come and talk, and this meeting this
16	evening I see some more folks. Make
17	sure everyone signs in before you sit
18	down. This evening we're going to have
19	our archeologist come and talk again.
20	MR. JOHNS: And on that note, I'm
21	going to ask our archeologist to give us
22	an update on sort of the activities that
23	have been going on with her.
24	This is Mary Tinsman.

Page 9 1 MS. TINSMAN: Good evening. It's 2 nice to see everybody and recognize 3 faces now. 4 We wanted to come back tonight 5 and just give you a little update, 6 because we haven't been out here for 7 over a month now since we did the ground 8 penetrating radar over the property. 9 I know a lot of you stopped by to 10 see us while we were working out there, and I definitely appreciated that. 11 12 Right now our -- the firm we had 13 hired, Enviroscan, is analyzing the results from what they did from the 14 15 radar, and we actually anticipate 16 getting those results this week. And 17 what that will be is it's a series of 18 like cross sections that he takes 19 through the ground at different 20 elevations, and then he can look at 2.1 those and can identify building 22 foundations, or holes that were in the 23 ground, or objects that are in the 24 ground that are greater than a certain

Page 10 1 size. And when he has those results, 2 I'll analyze them, and once they've gone 3 to PHA and HUD, and we'll actually bring 4 Bill back, and he'll talk again and kind 5 of go through what he has. I have an example with me. 6 7 can't get it to come up right now, but 8 afterwards if you want to see it, you 9 can definitely come and take a look. 10 We also, since we met last, have 11 submitted what are called Pennsylvania 12 Historic Research Survey Forms. 13 are forms that the State uses to document properties that are older than 14 15 50 years across the State of 16 Pennsylvania. We submitted two forms, 17 one for the apartment complex itself and 18 one for the Wissahickon playground. And 19 what we do with those forms, we do the 20 background research on both facilities, 2.1 we do physical descriptions, we look at 22 their integrity. Do they still have all 23 their historic materials? Do they still 24 exhibit -- do they still look like they

	Page 11
1	did when they were constructed? That
2	information has gone through PHA, and
3	it's gone through HUD now, and it's with
4	the State Historic Preservation Office.
5	And they'll review our recommendations
6	about the two properties, and then
7	they'll comment back to HUD. And once
8	we have those results, we'll be able to
9	actually have another Section 106
10	consulting party meeting, which I know a
11	lot of you attended as well down at
12	HUD's houses. That will be the next
13	formal step in the Section 106 process.
14	And then at that time we'll also
15	have those results from the ground
16	penetrating radar. We'll start to be
17	able to share some of those with
18	everybody.
19	MR. JOHNS: So essentially that's
20	the update of what's been happening.
21	As I stated when we first
22	started, there's not a whole lot to
23	really talk about, because that was the
24	next step, they were doing the

	Page 14
1	visible, so people in wheelchairs or who
2	have a physical disability will be able
3	to get into the units, because there
4	will be a zero step clearance. There
5	won't be any steps.
6	MELVA McCRAY: Okay, great.
7	Thank you.
8	MR. JOHNS: Thank you. You have
9	to state your name and spell it for the
10	court stenographer.
11	PHIL LOCKETT: My name is Phil
12	Lockett, P-H-I-L, L-O-C-K-E-T-T.
13	My question is, the building
14	that's going up, is it for all ages? Is
15	it just for senior citizens?
16	MR. JOHNS: It's not a seniors
17	only development. But people of all
18	ages will be eligible to apply to move
19	in, but it's not a seniors only
20	development.
21	PHIL LOCKETT: Thank you.
22	MR. JOHNS: Thank you.
23	LISA HOPKINS: Hi, I came in late
24	from another meeting. Lisa Hopkins,

	Page 15
1	Northwest Neighbors of Germantown.
2	MR. JOHNS: Spell your name for
3	the court stenographer.
4	LISA HOPKINS: H-O-P-K-I-N-S.
5	There have been community members who
6	have come to us and wanted to know that
7	if they wanted to apply for a
8	construction job but not for
9	subcontracting, would they have to be
10	still affiliated with the union, or how
11	you know, how is it going to be
12	how are they going to get notified
13	are there going to be notifications for
14	anyone to apply for like an individual
15	contracting job?
16	MR. JOHNS: Right. Once we get
17	to the point where we'll start the
18	construction, they'll have I think
19	they're going to be able to go to the
20	trailer, right?
21	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think we
22	were going to use the office up the
23	street here.
24	MR. JOHNS: I guess that is the

	Page 16
1	resident leadership office up the street
2	where people can come and apply.
3	We'll let you know when that
4	at the point we can do that.
5	LISA HOPKINS: They'll also put
6	out the requirements and what they're
7	looking for as well?
8	MR. JOHNS: Yes. And we'll have
9	that will be part of a meeting we
10	have, too, to just let everybody know.
11	LISA HOPKINS: Mary, did you make
12	your presentation already?
13	MARY TINSMAN: Yes, you missed
14	it. I can give it to you afterwards.
15	LISA HOPKINS: The playground
16	situation, because it's been closed off,
17	and it was primarily used for basketball
18	courts, there has not been any response
19	to letters that we've written addressed
20	to your attention and Michael Kelly, and
21	we've been in conversation with Cindy
22	Bass. There's been talks about the
23	location being at Queen Lane across the
24	street, but then there's neighbors who

Page 17 1 have a problem with the backyards and 2 invasion of privacy. So I don't know 3 where we are with this playground, 4 because right now the children are 5 jumping the fence at Kelly Elementary School trying to play ball. We don't 6 7 want them to get in trouble for 8 trespassing, and we don't want them to 9 get hurt. 10 So in our letter that we wrote to 11 you back in March, we had asked for a 12 temporary location, because I know it's 13 going to take a year or more. And these kids waiting until 2013, it's unfair for 14 15 them. And the fact that the former 16 council person took that away, without a 17 charette, without the community's 18 involvement, we want to know what other 19 plans you have in the meantime so that 20 these kids can continue playing ball. 2.1 School is going to let out, and we don't 22 want them to get in trouble. And it's 23 not fair to them. 24 MR. JOHNS: We got -- I got your

potential apartment complex and the

	Page 22
1	Potter's Field, an acknowledgment of
2	that site. So that is the hope, and
3	that is what we'll pray we'll be able to
4	do.
5	KATHERINE ADAMS: Hi, I'm
6	Katherine Adams. I was wondering
7	MR. JOHNS: Spell your name.
8	KATHERINE ADAMS: A-D-A-M-S.
9	There's usually one D only.
10	So you're saying that's one of
11	the that's like last resort. Is what
12	you're saying sort of best case
13	scenario, is 55 rental units go up by
14	PHA standards, the best scenario is
15	that? The worst scenario sort of what
16	you're identifying is that would
17	stay
18	MR. JOHNS: That would be the
19	least desirable.
20	KATHERINE ADAMS. What is sort of
21	in the middle there? What are the other
22	possibilities? What are you discussing?
23	It sounds like you've got something in
24	mind.

1 MR. JOHNS: No. What we have in 2 mind is what we have planned, and we're 3 really sort of basing all of our work on 4 our ability to complete the proposed 5 plan. And that is to develop the 55 units and to honor the Potter's Field in 6 7 some way and make that a space that 8 would be accessible and available to the 9 public. And so that's our goal. 10 that's what we're moving towards.

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So we don't -- we don't have a second or sort of in between option, if we don't do that we do this, because we have to wait until the results come back, and so far we haven't heard -- nobody has made a call to us that says, you know, wow, something really looks crazy here, and we're going to have to do a step back. So we haven't gotten that call, and I don't foresee us getting the call.

KATHERINE ADAMS: Okay. But saying this -- the worst case scenario is leaving the building and rehabbing or

	Page 27
1	CORLISS GRAY: Michael, do PHA
2	have any property that fits that?
3	MR. JOHNS: I think we only have
4	one vacant lot.
5	CORLISS GRAY: Where is that?
6	MR. JOHNS: I think it's like
7	right across the street. I'm not sure.
8	CORLISS GRAY: Next door to where
9	I live at? That's not PHA property.
10	MR. JOHNS: It's not?
11	CORLISS GRAY: No.
12	MR. JOHNS: Again, we said that
13	we have to have we're going to talk
14	to a councilwoman and see
15	CORLISS GRAY: That's basically
16	there because they tore a bar down. I
17	have no knowledge that PHA bought it.
18	MR. JOHNS: We don't own it,
19	then. I thought maybe that was one of
20	them.
21	We need your name.
22	NEIL BLUNT: Neil Blunt, N-E-I-L,
23	B-L-U-N-T.
24	We are in talks now with the

	Page 28
1	Wissahickon Boys and Girls Club to have
2	an extended hour extended hours to
3	open up the gym for the boys and girls
4	to play basketball.
5	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who is
6	"we"?
7	NEIL BLUNT: We've been having a
8	basketball league
9	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Because
10	you all don't you don't invite us.
11	Come on now.
12	NEIL BLUNT: We've been having
13	basketball leagues every summer. It's
14	going to continue. We've been playing
15	the department of recreation leagues
16	every year for the last 20 years. So
17	that's going to happen.
18	MR. JOHNS: Well, that's good.
19	NEIL BLUNT: We're just going to
20	use the Boys and Girls Club, because
21	they have a huge gym over there.
22	MR. JOHNS: That's great. Thank
23	you. Well, that's a great option.
24	Are there any more questions?

	Page 29
1	Any other questions?
2	MR. von HEPPINSTALL: Just
3	because I wanted to make sure, when you
4	said the only option that we have
5	what you were saying is that last the
6	last scenario is to keep the building
7	up, right?
8	MR. JOHNS: Right.
9	MR. von HEPPINSTALL: The last
10	one?
11	MR. JOHNS: Right.
12	MR. von HEPPINSTALL: I think you
13	said before, you're going to be open to
14	any options that might become available
15	if plans don't work the way they are,
16	you're open to anything, but the last
17	one at the end of the road is taking and
18	leaving that thing there, right?
19	MR. JOHNS: That would be the
20	last thing we would want to do.
21	MR. vON HEPPINSTALL: I just
22	wanted to make sure that was
23	clarified.
24	MR. JOHNS: Any other questions?

	Page 30
1	PAMELA BRACEY: Good evening.
2	Pamela Bracey, B-R-A-C-E-Y.
3	I don't have a question, but at
4	one of our last meetings, there was a
5	conversation about individuals having an
6	opportunity for jobs. And Nicetown Part
7	II is getting ready to build some more
8	properties, and they are having a
9	meeting on Wednesday, May the 16th.
10	It's daytime, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., at
11	4300 Germantown Avenue. And you can
12	call them at $215-329-1824$ or 27 . This
13	is Neighborhood Stabilization Program.
14	Attend this meeting to get updated
15	information about upcoming housing,
16	employment, and contracting
17	opportunities.
18	MR. JOHNS: Well, thank you very
19	much. Thank you.
20	Did everybody did you folks
21	get that?
22	LISA HOPKINS: This was just
23	given to me. I guess it's coming from
24	HUD. This capital improvement on the

	Page 31
1	Office of Public Housing and Investments
2	which funds development, finance and
3	modernization, management improvements,
4	are you all using capital improvement
5	along with the tax credits for
6	development or demolition? Because it's
7	about 90 million dollars for this.
8	Amount disbursed, 77 million. I'm
9	reading. It says capital fund ARRA
10	grant.
11	MR. JOHNS: Those are stimulus
12	dollars. PHA received stimulus dollars
13	under the President's stimulus
14	MS. WILSON: Three and a half
15	years ago.
16	MR. JOHNS: Was it three and a
17	half years ago?
18	We actually received like 130
19	million dollars, and we utilized those
20	dollars to do infrastructure
21	improvements at some of our conventional
22	sites. We built some housing
23	developments out of those dollars.
24	Those dollars are committed and spent.

some other sites. So with that money --

	Page 34
1	more grant applications than we actually
2	got funded for, and this one we did not
3	get funded for.
4	We submitted a grant application,
5	but we did not get this funding.
6	MR. JOHNS: Okay. Any other
7	questions?
8	MS. MONTGOMERY: Carmella
9	Montgomery.
10	If you all do plan to go with the
11	55 units, how soon will it be for
12	residents to apply for the application?
13	MR. JOHNS: Usually it's 90 days
14	before the actual completion date is
15	when we will open the leasing office.
16	We will do a public notice. It will go
17	on our website. And we
18	MS. WILSON: Newspapers.
19	MR. JOHNS: Yes, newspapers, and
20	more than likely we will have had a
21	monthly meeting before that, and you
22	guys will be the first to know what the
23	date is.
24	Any other questions? All right.

outcome would be what we determined and

	Page 36
1	what we have prayed about from the
2	onset. Have your will and your way.
3	Give us safe passage from this place of
4	worship to our several destinations. In
5	your name we pray, amen.
6	MEETING ATTENDEES: Amen.
7	* * *
8	(Whereupon, the meeting was
9	concluded at approximately 6:45 p.m.)
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1 2	LAWYER'S NOTES		
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