

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Housing Commission
Regular Meeting
November 5th, 2012
4:00 p.m.
Conference Room 312, LTBB Government Complex

Closed Session: None

Call to Order: 4:01 p.m.

Roll call: Chairman Ray Kiogima – Absent; Vice Chairperson Arlene Naganashe – Present; Secretary Patrick Wemigwase – Present; Commissioner Larry Stead – Present; Commissioner Vacant

Staff present: Executive Housing Director John Givens; Tribal Chairmen – Dexter McNamara

Guests present: David Harrington – Tribal Member; Jessica Searles – Tribal Member

Opening Prayer: Arlene Naganashe

Motion made by Arlene Naganashe and supported by Larry Stead to accept the agenda for the November 5th, 2012 meeting as written and amended.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained, 1 – Vacant

Motion Carried

Motion made by Larry Stead and supported by Patrick Wemigwase to accept the minutes from the October 11th, 2012 meeting; that was not an official meeting due to the lack of commissioners attending.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained, 1 – Vacant

Motion Carried

Housing Director Report:

Home Sale: We have received an offer on the vacant home at 3617 Zhou Noong. I have approved the offer and will be sending my recommendation to the Tribal Chairman for submission to Tribal Council. The home will be sold on land contract to a Tribal Family with 4 people.

Criminal History: Attached is the Tribal Rental Operations Policy that the Housing Department uses. In that policy are the parameters of what we deem as unacceptable in the way of a criminal history. Does the Housing Commission feel that it should be changed in any way? If so, what changes would you like to see made?

Motion made by Patrick Wernigwase and supported by Arlene Naganashe to accept the verbal and written report of the Housing Director.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained, 1 – Vacant

Motion Carried

4:30 p.m. David Harrington and Jessica Searles both walk in.

Elders Coordinator Report: None

5:15 p.m. Dexter McNamara walks in.

FYI:

The following is a copy of the letter that was sent to the Tribal Chairmen's office from the Housing Commission on behalf of David Harrington and Jessica Searles:

To Tribal Chairman Dexter McNamara:

This letter is from the Housing Commission to show our support for David Harrington and Jessica Searles' current application for a unit out at Mtiigwaakiis (Murray Road) Tribal Village in Charlevoix County. The main reason the commission is sending this letter to the Tribal Chairmen is the issue with the Housing Department about David's criminal past and it keeping them from being able to rent a unit from the Housing Department. All of the commissioners have agreed to give them a chance despite David's past we believe that everyone deserves a second chance, because everyone has made some mistakes at one time or another in their life time. Their present residence is in foreclosure and the landlord has stopped maintaining the structure also, their situation could change at any day; meaning they all could become homeless at any time. Also they need housing to keep their kids safe and to reduce the stress while they are attending school plus with the weather starting to turn colder. As the Housing Commission, we believe that our mission is to provide affordable housing to all our tribal citizens, and also place as many tribal citizens in affordable housing or apartments as possible. With that all said, as the commission we all know what the regulations are for the tribal villages, and what they say according to violent, and drug related crimes, but we feel that David has proven himself not only to society but to his family as well, and that he will no longer fall back into that situation again. So in closing, the Housing Commission hopes that you will consider Jessica Searles and David Harrington as likely candidates for the Mtiigwaakiis (Murray Rd) Tribal Village.

Thank you,
The Housing Commission

Arlene and Larry both said that Patrick does a great job as the Secretary of the Housing Commission. He always does a good job on all of the reports, getting all

the paper work in, and setting up all the meetings (special, work sessions, & community).

Public Comment Opens: 5:10 p.m.

David Harrington and Jessica Searles was letting the commission know how their meeting went with the Tribal Chairmen. They said that he suggested that we need to go over the Housing Department Rental Policy, and that we need to make some changes to it; in regards to this particular situation and any others similar to this that might come up. They were hoping for some kind of decision today; with Ray absent and out of state we told them the best that we could do for them now is to have Jessica and the kids move in now and take care of David's situation on the 19th, of November at our work session. They agreed with that decision. John Givens just needs a letter from Jessica stating that David will not be living with them until the commission makes their decision on the rental policy on the 19th.

Patrick Wernigwase was letting the commissioners know the dates for the next community meetings (December 6th, Harbor Springs and December 13th, Murray Rd.). He also let the rest of the commission know that any of them are welcome to attend any of the meetings just need to bring a dish to pass, because they are pot luck style.

Arlene was asking about Internet for the Community Center, and if it is ever going to be a possible to have access to it. John was saying that people are always asking about this, and he won't use any of his budget for it, but if the chairmen's office or council wants to pay for it so be it. He says that he will look into it and let the Commission know what he finds out.

Public Comment Closes: 5:40 p.m.

Motion made by Arlene Naganashe and supported by Patrick Larry Stead to have a work session on November 19th, 2012 to go over the **NAHASDA** Rental Operations Policy that the Housing Department uses for its rental units.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained, 1 – Vacant

Motion Carried

Motion made by Arlene Naganashe and supported by Larry Stead to adjourn at 5:42 P.M.

Vote: 3 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 – Abstained, 1 – Vacant

Motion Carried

Next meeting is on December 3rd, 2012 @ 4 p.m. in Conference Room 312 at the LTBB Government Complex.

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Date: 10/05/12

Patrick Wernigwase, Secretary

Minutes approve on December 3rd, 2012.