



Rehoboth MASSACHUSETTS

REPORT OF THE REHOBOTH HOUSING AUTHORITY - 14 MAY 2022

The Rehoboth Housing Authority (RHA) held its last meeting on 11 May 2022.

The following are nominated and elected to the following positions on the RHA:

- Paul Jacques, Chair; 5 Years 2026
- Steve Silva, Secretary; 5 Years 2025
- Joe Collins, Clerk; 5 Years 2024
- Linda Sherman; Member 5 Years 2023
- Neal Harrington; Treasurer 5 Years
(Appointed by the Governor)

Current RHA business consists of answering requests for Community Housing to about five to ten per month. Neil Harrington, Bradley Marshall, and the Rehoboth Senior Center volunteers do outstanding job replying to these requests. Unfortunately, our response is "Rehoboth does not have Community/Municipal Housing" and it is suggested those interested contact surrounding communities known to have Municipal Housing. In cases where individuals have never completed a Housing Application, the standard HUD Housing Application is mailed with recommendations to contact the South Shore Housing & Development Corporation in Kingston, MA for more information. Occasionally those having HUD Housing Subsidy Vouchers for another community contact us. In such instances they are advised to transfer the rent subsidy voucher to Rehoboth for use on the Rehoboth rental market.

Since Rehoboth does not have any Community/Municipal Housing, the RHA pursuant to M.G.L. c. 121B, Section 5 submitted a waiver application to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to waive the Governor's requirement that the Town appoint a Tenant Board Member to the RHA. Upon review of the material provided to DHCD requesting a statutory waiver from the requirements of M.G.L. c. 121B Section 5 the RHA was approved for said waiver. This waiver allows for someone other than a person who is eligible to be the "Town Appointed Tenant Board Member" to fill the seat for a one-year period. This waiver is valid for one-year and may be renewed for one-year periods so long as there remains no person eligible to serve as the "Town Appointed Tenant Board Member." The April 2022 Town Election filled this Rehoboth Housing Authority vacancy by electing Joe Collins.

Several meetings of the Rehoboth Housing Authority have been held to approve an initiative for the construction of Senior Housing in the Town of Rehoboth. Steve Silva and Linda Sherman are doing an incredible job navigating through the information required to help with our meetings. The RHA, in cooperation with the Board of Selectman (BOS), has put forward an article on the Town Warrant titled Article #10 Property Swap Between the Town of Rehoboth and Housing Authority. Both the Town of Rehoboth and our residents will benefit from this proposed property swap through such results as financial savings, historical preservation, and an opportunity for Senior Housing. We have respectfully requested support for Article #10 on the Town Warrant to take care of our most vulnerable residents; our seniors. If Article #10 on the Town Warrant passes, the RHA will continue working together with the BOS, the Historical Society, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), the Women's Development Corporation (WDC), and others to secure further funding and meet required steps to bring this initiative to completion.

On the fourth Wednesday of each month, the RHA Chairman may attend meetings of the Community Preservation Committee. As of 01 April 2022 the three bank accounts associated with the Rehoboth Housing Authority total balance is \$8,132.67. On behalf of the Rehoboth Housing Authority Members we attest this report to be true to the best of our knowledge and ability.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Jacques, Chair
Rehoboth Housing Authority
(508) 922-4394

