



# Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, Missouri

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201 Switzler Street, Columbia MO 65203

Office: (573) 443-2556 ♦ Fax: (573) 443-0051 ♦ TTY: (800) 735-2966 ♦ www.ColumbiaHA.com

## Resident Advisory Board

### **August 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The Resident Advisory Board (RAB) met on Thursday, August 22nd at Paquin Towers in the Community Room beginning at 5:00 p.m.

**RAB Members Present:** Mary Moncrief, Grace Wheeler, Andre Jackson, Michael Goodman, Ellen Stockton, Betty McCarther, Ellen Hayes, Debora Richardson, Ruthy Chatman, Walter Lewis, William Clines, Steven John Rae, Linda M. Mitchell, Lori A Johnson, Michael Moran, Meherad Fotoohigiam, Pattie Robinson, Robert Cain, Cathy Lynch, Max D. Wilkey, Yvonne Artis, Qiv Yan Yang, Linda Tran.

**Guests Present:** None.

**Present from CHA:** Randy Cole- Chief Executive Officer, Samantha Christian- Independent Living Coordinator, Brandon Gladbach- Affordable Housing Manager II, Laura Lewis- Director of Affordable Housing Operations, Bo Bowman- Receptionist

#### **I. Call to Order and Introductions:**

Mr. Cole called the meeting to order at 5:09 P.M.

#### **II. Approval of Agenda:**

Mr. Cole called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. A motion was made by Ms. Betty McCarther, second by Mr. Michael Moran. All members voted "Aye" and Mr. Cole declared the agenda approved.

#### **III. Public Comments:** none.

#### **IV. Paquin Geothermal Repair and Temporary Parking Update:**

Mr. Cole explained that the Geothermal system had leaks in one out of four ground loops causing 50 gallons of water to flow out. Thus, staff dug up the parking lot and installed 4 valves. The last valve was installed on August 22<sup>nd</sup> with the hope of identifying the leak and getting it repaired. It was shared that the parking will remain the same for another week during the repairs with the hope of having it repaired by winter.

Mr. Cole stated that a change in the parking had been made to help accommodate the construction work. CHA Staff has been directed to park in the garage to free up

space in the parking lot. Mr. Cole shared that any questions should be directed to Mr. Gladbach.

William Clines asked if there would be new asphalt. Mr. Cole stated that CHA has it in the budget and there are plans to have the parking lot redone near fall or spring. Residents said that they would like to see more lighting as well in the parking lot.

Mr. Cole spoke of safety and stated that the City Parks and Recreation staff have spoken to him and would help with trespassing. Residents stated they would like that and agreed.

Mr. Meherad Fotoohigham spoke of a farm in the back of the property to which they plant vegetables and fruits. He shared that someone has uprooted the plants. When this was brought to security, to see who did the damage, security stated there were no cameras in that area. Residents spoke up and would like more cameras and lighting in the garden and those areas.

Mr. Fotoohigham also expressed that he would like to help with the Geothermal problem if he can, and shared that he is certified in the field.

#### **V. Food Bank and Columbia Housing Authority Partnership Update:**

Mr. Cole, Ms. Hammons, Ms. Christian and Mr. Unser met with the food bank staff on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, to talk about the challenges of the Market Boxes, and explore other options such as a food pantry at Paquin Towers. With multiple freezers and shelving it could be as good, if not better than the food trucks. After talking to Mr. Goodman and Ms. Christian the benefit of the food truck is the fresh produce it brings. However, there is a large room downstairs in Paquin Tower that would be perfect for a pantry as it is larger than the Annie Fisher pantry, and it would be on site. Mr. Goodman stated the pantry at Paquin wouldn't help Oak Towers as it wasn't at Oak. Mr. Cole stated that staff could coordinate with Oak Towers after the move of the pantry to Paquin Towers has been made. Ms. Christian stated that Services for Independent Living (SIL) will assist with transportation on Wednesdays as well. Residents stated that SIL only do one turn around, where they drop off or pick up. Ms. Christian stated that if the pantry is at Paquin it will be easier to negotiate and that staff can also utilize Burrell Behavioral Health and SIL can still have Tuesday as well. Ms. Christian said it's a lot to work with but would be a lot easier to manage if the pantry were in Paquin.

Residents suggested that staff make food boxes for Oak Towers residents, however some residents state that people would just throw away the food if that is done. Ms. Christian expresses that this should be explored further.

Mr. Cole asked for additional information or comments, none of which were made, so he stated that it sounded like a great idea to open space for a pantry at Paquin Towers. Residents agreed and asked if there would be certain days it would be open. Mr. Cole stated instead of once a month maybe once a week.

Residents asked about clinic drivers and how there aren't enough rides. Ms. Christian stated that SIL is an option and Mr. Cole asked if they wanted a bus.

Residents confirmed that they would like a bus and Ms. Christian clarified that the bus should be small.

Resident asked about parking and if there could be signs or stickers to go into cars for staff and residents so violators could be towed. Ms. Moncreif suggested and Ms. Lynch 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion that they were needed. Mr. Cole stated it sounded okay and would look into it.

**VI. Adjournment:**

Mr. Cole called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Ruth Chapman, Second by Ms. Betty McCarther. Mr. Cole called the meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bo Bowman**

Bo Bowman, Receptionist