North Bellevue Comm. Center – Room D

MEETING NOTES

■ June 12, 2012

■ 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Members Present: Paula Danielson, Teresa Eazor, Michelle Elworth, Lyudmila Kacherovskaya, Amy Pawloski, Terry McLlarky, Elizabeth Miller, Linda Sanchez-Suwaneh

KCHA Staff: Rickie Robinson, Bill Cook, Judi Jones, MaiLing Martin, Tiffany Ngo, Cynthia Ricks-Maccotan, Beth Pearson, Travis Sherer

KEY POINTS DISCUSSED		
NO.	TOPIC	HIGHLIGHTS
1	REVIEW OF NOTES	Notes were accepted with no corrections
2	509 UPDATE	509 units, 22 propertiesStart date June 1st
3	MTW UPDATES	2013 plan in progress
4	NON-SMOKING INITIATIVE	•

Welcome and Introductions – Rickie Robinson welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the room.

Review of Notes – Rickie asked if there are any corrections needed on the notes from the February 2012 meetings. The notes were approved with no corrections.

509 Update – Beth Pearson and Cynthia Ricks-Maccotan presented on the 509 disposition project. The reason for the name of this project is because 509 units over 22 smaller KCHA properties are being converted to Project-based Section 8. There is more federal funding for vouchers than for public housing. This allows for potential upgrades and maintenance to these units if residents choose to apply for a voucher and move out. The vouchers provided are known as "protection" vouchers and will not affect the current Section 8 waitlist. KCHA will provide moving assistance for those 509 residents that do move. The notification letters of the start date were sent out on June 1st. Approximately 85% of residents that have responded want to apply for the voucher. Cynthia also mentioned that KCHA will be tracking information on the residents such as why people choose to move.

MTW Updates – Judi Jones stated that the 2012 MTW report was submitted and HUD came back with requests for clarifications. She is currently working on the 2013 MTW Plan and should have a draft available in mid-August or September. The 2013 MTW Plan will address possible changes to the rent policy and how rent is calculated for mixed family populations. Mixed family populations are families that have members that are undocumented aliens. The Cambridge Housing Authority currently charges 10% rent surcharge while the Portland Housing Authority charges a flat rent of \$100 per person. KCHA will be looking into how these Housing Authorities work. Another topic that may be addressed is how people will be categorized. Currently, KCHA has three categories: Disabled, Near Elderly (ages 55-61), and Elderly (62+) which is problematic for housing people. KCHA will look at merging the Nearly Elderly

and Elderly categories to simplify the process. Also, the MTW plan will take a look at residual family members.

Non-Smoking Initiative – Bill Cook gave a summary of the history of the non-smoking initiative which started back in 2006 with pilot testing at 3 buildings. In 2011, the pilot was expanded to include another larger set of buildings. This expansion was focused on mostly on South King County due to a CPPW grant. Last year, HUD made a recommendation that Housing Authorities should go non-smoking. Also, the results of the resident surveys showed that the majority would like non-smoking residences and those that smoked wanted help with quitting. A few reasons for non-smoking buildings are the health of the residents as well as staff, decreased expenses for turning over a unit, and it is an expensive habit. One of the concerns is the impact on elderly and frail residents that can't make it outside to smoke and heavy smokers. Joseph House, a new development in White Center, will have a gazebo built and security cameras will be recording the area to see what kind and amount of usage. Currently, there is no plan to provide an outdoor shelter for smokers at existing properties due to expense and liability. Joseph House will be monitored to determine if outdoor structures may be necessary. KCHA will provide resources for residents wanting to quit. Community outreach will continue forward in June with community meetings at each property affected. Along with presenting to the RAC, there will be two public hearings next week and one at the upcoming Board meeting. The hope is that the non-smoking initiative will be approved by the Board and will go into effect October 1, 2012.

Other Business – Tammy Morris would like to have subjects presented that are pertinent to Section Voucher holder. Rickie Robinson mentioned that there should be a representative available at the RAC meetings and will look into who should be attending the meetings. Paula Danielson brought up an issue with a resident at her building that is not maintaining their duties and upkeep.