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3	REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD : OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOBOKEN : THURSDAY HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY : FEBRUARY 9, 2023
4	OF HOBOKEN : 7:00 P.M.
5	
6	HELD IN PERSON AT
7	221 JACKSON STREET HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY
8	BEFORE:
9	CHAIRPERSON BARBARA REYES
10	VICE-CHAIRPERSON ERICA SEITZMAN (via Zoom) COMMISSIONER MICHAEL RUSSO
	COMMISSIONER ANDREW IMPASTATO (via Zoom) COMMISSIONER AARON LEWIT
12	COMMISSIONER JAMES SANFORD (via Zoom) COMMISSIONER ANTHONY FORBES (via Zoom)
13	
1 4	A P P E A R A N C E S: FITZPATRICK & WATERMAN, ESQS.,
15	BY: MATTHEW FITZPATRICK, ESQ. Attorneys for the Board.
16	
17	ALSOPRESENT:
18	MARC A. RECKO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LOURDES PRIESTLEY, Director of Administration
19	FRANK MERCHAND, Director of Management EMIL KOTHERITHARA, CFO (via Zoom)
20	
21	THERESA L. TIERNAN, CCR, RMR
22	CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER (201) 925-7474
23	
2 4	
25	

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1	(Pledge of Allegiance recited at this time.)
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I would like to
3	advise those present that notice of the this regular
4	meeting of the Housing Authority of City of Hoboken
5	has been provided to the public in accordance with
6	the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.
7	Notice of this regular monthly February
8	Board meeting was given by publication of the annual
9	meeting notice of the Authority with amendments as
10	necessary, was sent to the Jersey Journal and Star
11	Ledger on Tuesday, January 31st, 2023, and sent to
12	the City Clerk of Hoboken on Tuesday, January 31st,
13	2023, with a copy of the agenda to be posted on the
14	aforementioned bulletin Board in City Hall, Hoboken
15	Library, and Hoboken Police Department, and posted
16	on the Authority's website on Tuesday, January 31st,
17	2023. I direct the minutes of this meeting to state
18	that I have announced that adequate notice of this
19	meeting has been given as required by the Open
20	Public Meetings Act.
21	Roll call, Director.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
23	Forbes?
24	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Present.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew

1	Impastato?
2	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Here.
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
4	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Present.
5	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
6	Reyes?
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Here.
8	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
9	Russo?
10	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Present.
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James
12	Sanford?
13	Erica Seitzman?
14	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Present.
15	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Kevin Groomes.
16	COURT STENOGRAPHER: Could you please
17	state your name for the record?
18	MR. GROOMES: Kevin Groomes.
19	COURT STENOGRAPHER: Could you please
20	spell your last?
21	MR. GROOMES: Last name?
22	G-R-O-O-M-E-S.
23	COURT STENOGRAPHER: Thank you.
24	MR. GROOMES: Thank you, everybody.
25	How you doing, everybody?

1	I keep telling you about my house,
2	about these pet problems I have, like the water
3	bugs, and I keep telling you all over and over and
4	it's not getting done. And the one you got now, the
5	guy come out to the house, I don't know who, because
6	they're horrible, they are horrible.
7	And my second question, Director,
8	what's going on by the buildings out here? The
9	buildings, they're going to knock them down or how
10	far are we doing this?
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I'll be
12	doing a full report on that during my session.
13	MR. GROOMES: So how long is that?
14	Next year?
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I'll be
16	doing a full report during my session.
17	MR. GROOMES: Oh, okay. Like I said,
18	I'm just worried about the pet problem in my house,
19	that's all, and I keep telling you all and I saw
20	your picture too like the last meeting, last meeting
21	I saw the traps out there, but the water bugs in the
22	house, it's embarrassing, you know? I go to Home
23	Depot and get some spray, you know, and it's
24	ridiculous. So what I'm going to do, if it keeps
25	if you're not going to do nothing, I'm going to

1	have I'm going to higher somebody up and give you
2	all the bill and you all could take care of the bill
3	right there, because who you got now ain't doing the
4	job. Ain't coming off. Thank you.

5 CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Thank you, Kevin. 6 Michelle Lessane.

COURT STENOGRAPHER: Could you spell your last name?

MS. LESSANE: Yes. L-E-S-S-A-N-E.

Good evening, everyone.

I just have a question about the policy that was put out about the curfew, 10 p.m. I have people that visits me, like, in the springtime and summertime. My brother's military, and my sisters come from South Carolina. I don't think it's fair. I understand that you all put this in place because of all the stuff that's going on, but sometimes when we all go hang out, we sit in front of my door, we just sitting on the ledge and I don't think it's fair to us, the good ones, that we have to suffer from a lot of the other ones. Like, a lot of times they know who the problematic people were, like, they could do something about that, but it's not fair to us. It's not fair to me that I got to tell my brother, "Oh, we can't sit outside." We grown

1 folks. I pay rent here. We grown folks and we 2 can't sit outside. I'm always in the house. I 3 think I deserve to sit outside. If it's in the 4 springtime, if it starts getting warm, there's time 5 I like to come out with a chair and just sit there 6 and look at the skunks and all that, but I like to 7 sit there, and I don't think it's fair that I have to go in my -- I can't go in my house 10 o'clock. 8 9 One night I came from church 11:30 at night and I 10 was walking and I seen people outside, and I said, 11 "Oh, okay," walking through and I seen all the cops, they were standing there, I guess they were doing 12 13 duty there, and they was just standing there 14 afterwards and they looked at me and I was like, 15 "Well, I ain't supposed to be outside? I'm coming 16 from church." Like, you know, it's kind of 17 embarrassing, guys. I mean, I understand yous want to implement this and do something about it, but you 18 19 got to think about the good people too that just 20 want to sit outside when nothing else to do, you 21 know? I mean, I'm just -- just take that into 22 consideration. I understand maybe you can revisit 23 this and see how what else use can do, but just to tell people that they can't sit outside, especially 24 25 we're not problematic. We pay our rent, and we

1	sitting	outside	just	to	get	some	fresh	air.	It's
2	just unf	air. Th	nat's	all	. ]	ſhank	you.		

3 CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Thank you, Ms.

4 Lessane.

5 Manuel Rivera Soler.

MR. RIVERA SOLER: Sorry. Just got to get this to stay where it's supposed to. Thank you.

Madame Chair, Manuel Rivera Soler, 529

Park Avenue.

If Madame Chair could please, when the Director or whomever is going to give information in regards to the resolutions, if you can, 23-02.03 and 23-02.06, if the members of the public could get a little more information on those two.

I would like to see that I have enough time to ask a few more follow-ups from last meeting's agenda when the Director was speaking and you all were discussing in regards to the lack of employees that you were requesting or asking for, the maintenance. Has anyone applied or anyone has been hired? That would be good information to give members of the public. I'm sure you will do it in your report, if you have it, and as well as I would like to mention you also said you would be power washing certain sections of certain buildings in the

housing. I would like to know how that schedule has been going and which sections of which buildings of which sidewalks are being power washed or will be power washed, that also will be helpful for the members of the public, especially people who have need for special attention when they walk, meaning disabled folks.

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I would also like to ask, and this is a big question, and it's not even a question, it's more of a comment, about the wait list for the -- I guess, the wait list, I'm being redundant. Could you please let members of the public know a little bit more, if you have more details on when that wait list is going to be opened? How are you going to let the general public know as to how to or when to apply for these -- for this wait list. There are many, many people asking and who are in need. I was at a meeting the other day in regards to it doesn't pertain to this, but in regards to affordable housing. So everyone is looking for affordable housing and Section 8 and whatever is out there, but if members of the public can hear as to where it is, that would be also greatly appreciated, and which also leads me to the redevelopment of the housing. It went through the Council in first reading.

1	Again, if the greater public of Hoboken could get
2	information, but as well residents of the housing
3	when the details of these redevelopments come up, if
4	you're asking for folks, and they were asked in the
5	Council meeting to be at these meetings to give
6	input, I'm assuming that members of the public would
7	be better served if you could advertise it more or
8	that more people know. I don't know how we would do
9	it at both parties, whereas the City Council,
10	everyone should be told so that way you could get
11	more people, because we need more members of the
12	public in all of these mootings so they can give
13	their input.
14	So with that, I would like to thank you
15	for your attention, for your polite attention, and
16	your answers to your questions, and God bless you,
17	God bless Hoboken, and God bless the Housing, and
18	the residents of the Housing Authority.
19	Thank you.
20	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Director?
21	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Is that all?
22	MR. RIVERA SOLER: Madame Chair, I
23	think Patricia Waiters sent me a text she was on her
24	way to speak, but I don't know if

CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Unfortunately --

1	MR. RIVERA SOLER: I just wanted to let
2	you know.
3	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I can't stop the
4	meeting because she's not here.
5	MR. RIVERA SOLER: Thank you. I just
6	wanted to the make sure I informed you.
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Thank you.
8	MR. RIVERA SOLER: Thank you.
9	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Madame Chair, I'll
10	make a motion to close the public portion.
11	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Motion.
12	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Second.
13	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: All in favor?
14	(Unanimous affirmative voice vote taken at
15	this time.)
16	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I guess we all
17	agree. Thank you, guys.
18	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you.
19	Thank you, Chairperson.
20	And I think as I go through my report
21	tonight, I'll be addressing a number of the issues
22	that came up that the public had to ask.
23	So on our committees, we had two
24	committee meetings this past month, the Facilities
25	meeting and a Professional Procurement meeting and

Regarding our award of Special
Allocation of Capital Funding that we announced last
month that we did a competitive grant process for,
the funds will be used for courtyard paving,
replacement, main entrance and gate replacement of
the courtyard with the goal of securing the
courtyard for residents only. Security camera
installation on each floor and the rooftop at
Harrison Gardens. The hallway and stairwell
refurbishment, painting, tread repair, and any other
REAC issues as funding allows.

To this end, we've begun a series of meetings with our architectural and engineering firms, first step to start getting some cost estimates and see how far the money is going to go and we'll keep you informed as we move along. This is brand new, but we've already been meeting with the architects and engineering firms.

On the Kyella's Way, good news. We have finally obtained the signage to create the commemorative designation for Colon at the Marshall Drive horseshoe. We have been in touch with Ms. Colon's family to schedule the events, so we're

speaking with them on when, thinking the end of March, beginning of April, right around in there, we've talked to the family, and as that develops we'll be sharing that news with you. We talked to Ms. Colon's mother.

Security issues. A number of issues fall under that. Our yearly request for proposals for community services has been published. We've got a pre-proposal meeting scheduled for Friday, February 17th, at 10 a.m. Proposals are due back on February 28th. So the wind's at our back, will have those to the March Board meeting. The pre-proposal meeting will be a Zoom meeting, so if anyone wants to participate in there, if you've picked up an RFP package at our office, you will automatically be invited to that, that meeting. You do need to stop by or e-mail Emil or myself to get a proposal packet. We do that again so we can track who exactly gets the packet. So if any addendums come out or any changes, we know who's got the packets.

We are beginning a design on a defensible space concept of fencing in the rear areas of our property that abuts the light rail. At our RAD Board meeting, which I'll mention later, there was a lot of talk about about what's going on

behind 300, 310, 320, 400, and all the issues we're having back there. We are talking to the police, Hoboken Police Department about those, but also we -- I strongly believe that we can address the problem through some passive defensible space concepts back there. We have put some money aside in this year's capital fund money to do a fencing project back there.

Our managers continue to surveil the video cameras. We've increased our number of resident meetings. We did have a resident meeting at Harrison Gardens on February 1st. The 300, 320 issues came up again. The increased lighting came up again at that meeting. So we're looking to respond to all of the issues that came up. I think the resident concerns that came up at that meeting we've already addressed as well. Barbara, thanks, Barbara was at that meeting. Thought it went well? We just get to more -- need to have more people. So we keep putting the word out and as spring comes, we'll get those -- keep those meetings going.

Our Hoboken Housing Forward update, which is the redevelopment update. Again, remember that we're laying our foundation, it's a step-by-step process. We're making progress every

day. Sometimes it takes a while, so folks don't hear a lot out there, but we're moving.

So the City did pass the selection of a planning firm for the redevelopment plan. That redevelopment plan is going to take about six months. So in the meantime, the planning group is going to come in, they're going to use our strategic plan as their base and we'll be forming together a redevelopment plan with the City for the Housing Authority sites.

I'm pleased to report that the city chose Heyer Gruel and Associates for the planning consultant. And I say I'm pleased because we had a great experience with them doing our strategic plan. They already know us. They know our properties.

They know the process so far. And on February 2nd I did participate with the city staff on the selection process, the interview process, so the Housing Authority is included right from the beginning. And on February 2nd we had a kickoff meeting.

The planning team, Heyer Gruel, and when I say planning team I mean planning team really is consultant, the City, the Housing Authority, right now, and that includes residents.

They'd like to meet with the Housing

Authority Board in person to get things moving. So they will have a couple of weeks to be getting their feet on the ground and meeting with you. Now, while they're here in person, they are also going to be meeting with the Resident Advisory Board while they are here that day, they will be in town all day, and then have a larger meeting open to all residents with the Hoboken community as well. So that will probably take place in March. So we'll have a meeting with the Board toward the end of February, with the Resident Advisory Board, then a larger meeting with all residents in the Hoboken community to bring everyone up to speed at the beginning of March.

Now, this is in the planning process. All the answers aren't answered yet. So this is part of the process and it's a good process.

So suggested dates are February 23rd, 27th and 28th. If anyone can communicate with me from the Board on if there's any obstacles to any of those days, I would presume we're talking about a 7 o'clock meeting, and if you get those back to me by text or e-mail or come up and tell me after the meeting, I'd appreciate it. Again February, 23rd, 27th, or 28th is when they are available to come to

Hoboken, okay? They are tasked with an aggressive six-month completion schedule. We will work closely with them. We already are. They're public scheduled meetings, publicize the information.

You'll find everything up to our website and share information as needed so that thing's moving along.

The second part of our Hoboken Housing Forward is our obsolescence study. In order to move the process forward, we had to conduct an obsolescence study, that is required by HUD, so the professionals can come in and say: Yes, indeed, our buildings are obsolete. That they need serious, substantial renovation and/or redevelopment.

That study is complete.

That was completed as of last week.

All of our sites have been deemed according to HUD guidelines, obsolete. So that now gives us the ability to move forward with an application to HUD's strategic office, which is in Chicago, and once that's approved, we will then -- we can then proceed with the replacement of our buildings, redevelopment of our buildings, under RAD and Section 18 guidelines. So it's got to be step by step.

Redevelopment plan's going on, the obsolescence plan is done. That's being submitted to the special HUD

division to give us permission to move forward from there under the RAD program.

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Capital needs study. We have published an RFP requesting an engineering firm to produce a capital needs plan for our ten-year period. plan will anticipate changing capital needs funding levels. As we progress through the redevelopment, it will answer questions such as should the Housing Authority take some of its capital money and contribute to the redevelopment process or, as we move along, we're still going to have folks living in our public housing buildings. What do we need to do in those buildings? What investments do we need to make? What investments should we hold off on as we redevelopment? So that's a HUD requirement. did not get responses to that RFP. We have republished the RFP. We're going to make a couple of changes in it before we accept it, and we're hoping to have that to you in the March meeting. Another step.

HMFA, who is, no matter what we do, a major financing partner. We have scheduled an introductory meeting for this coming Monday with the Housing Finance Agency. We will be discussing them, with them the availability of their financing, their

tax credits. We're going to be sharing our strategic plan with them. Where we're going to be and getting an idea from them on how much they predict in their magic ball, crystal ball, of how much funding they will have available year by year as we go through our redevelopment plan. So it's our first strategic meeting with HMFA, with the Housing Mortgage Finance Agency.

We do intend to publish an RFP for special legal counsel at the end of February. We think we'll have it out at the end of February, maybe the first week of March, but that's happening now. So we would think that maybe the April board meeting we would have that back to you as a Board.

Tonight you have in front of you a procurement policy amendment. It's before you tonight. It was discussed in depth at the Procurement Committee on February 6th. We did change slightly our original draft and I think when we talk about that resolution, we'll explain more, but I think we're on the right track with that.

Enterprise Partners. Our redevelopment team continues to meet with the Enterprise Partners, with the Fitzpatrick Law Firm, Housing Authority staff, and HUD representation from a very high

level. So for those of you that don't see a lot of progress, we're meeting regularly, all right? We're meeting with HUD, we are moving as fast as we can. We've got technical assistance given to us by HUD. So they are people that have done redevelopments across the country fairly and equitably. They are watching us. They report back to HUD to make sure we're going as fast as we can, to give us advice and technical assistance as we move forward. So we're working closely with them.

We also with the Enterprise team, we're beginning our work on projecting the management needs and positioning into 2023 and beyond. We're developing a training schedule for HHA staff on what those needs are going to be as we move forward with some renovated buildings and/or new buildings.

We'll be working specifically on revamping our total procurement policy.

existing procurement policy in front of you. Our next step on that is to revise the entire procurement policy. That will take a little bit longer, but we're working with Enterprise on that now. We're also working with them on a record retention system revamping for us.

1	Public and Resident Outreach. We
2	remain available for any forums. If you know of a
3	forum you'd like us to come and speak at, be glad to
4	do it. If you have a group that you want us to come
5	to, you want me to come to, invite me. We'll be
6	glad to come. We'll be glad to educate the public
7	as we move forward and tell folks exactly where we
8	are. We are also always open to intakes at my
9	office if anyone wants to come and see me and sit
10	down with a cup of coffee. We can sit down and
11	bring anyone up to date on where we are so. We're
12	open to you.
13	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Director, quick
14	question on the training schedule.
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes, sir.
16	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Is there a way
17	where any of the Commissioners may be able to sit in
18	on some of those, just so we have a better
19	understanding as well?
20	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Absolutely.
21	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Sounds good to me.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: As a matter
23	of fact, one of the main people, Ms. Valerie
24	Jackson, works with Enterprise, is working her
25	schedule out to see when she can come for a couple

1	of days.
2	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Okay, great.
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So that
4	would be a perfect time.
5	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Yeah, great.
6	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: And one thing
7	I'll just point out as the usual reminder. Any more
8	than three would be a violation of the Sunshine Law
9	or may be a violation of the Sunshine Law, so if,
10	for some reason, there's enough interest, you can
11	figure out who would attend and report back. I'll
12	leave that all up to you. I just want you to remind
13	you on that.
14	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Thank you.
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,
16	counselor.
17	So I want to present our new handbook.
18	It was passed out to residents today and we also
19	have a newsletter, and Ms. Corinne Richmond has
20	played lead on that.
21	Corinne, you want to say a few things
22	about our new handbook and our newsletter?
23	MS. RICHMOND: Sure.
24	VOICE: She did a great job.
25	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: She did.

1		VOICE:	She did.	It's good.	Very
2	good.				

3 MS. RICHMOND: Thank you. Good 4 evening, everyone.

So as the Director said, this is the handbook, and pretty much what this is, this is — it outlines your right as residents and also your duties as residents, and it also outlines our rights and our duties, so we have to be held accountable. So this is pretty much an outline of everything that we are supposed to do for you and what you are also supposed to do for us. And this is the very first edition, so there are amendments and new elements that we are going to add to this. So if you read through all these and you find that there is something that you would like to add or discuss or you don't understand, you can either call your manager, put that in writing, and we would address that, okay?

And the newsletter, I don't know if any of you read that. So if you want a copy, it's also available on our website. And the good thing is it's also in Spanish. So whenever you see a page in English, there's also a page in Spanish. We make it accessible to everyone. We were not able to do that

1	through the handbook because of the volume, was a
2	big publication, but if you need a copy in Spanish,
3	you can always ask your manager and I will provide
4	you one, okay? Thank you.
5	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Thank you.
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,
7	Corinne. Thank you.
8	(Applause.)
9	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: And we do
10	appreciate Corinne's leadership on that, but also I
11	want you to know that the entire staff had input
12	here. We had numerous meetings that Corinne led
13	with our management department, with maintenance.
14	We went over it and over it and over it, a number of
15	drafts. So we're very proud of it and we're hoping
16	to serve you and communicate more and more in the
17	future.
18	So, again, if you see anything in there
19	that you don't understand or you think it's wrong,
20	feel free to give us a note, and we'll take a look
21	at it from there. Good stuff.
22	Covid-19 seems to be at a bit of a
23	lull, knock on wood. We still had a couple of
24	people out over the past couple of months and some

quarantine issues, but we're doing fairly well.

Τ	The renovation work at Fox Hill is in
2	process. Lighting has already brightened up our
3	hallways. Plumbing, cabinet, and countertop work is
4	in process. I believe you were at the last job
5	meeting, Aaron?
6	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yup.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So things
8	are
9	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Things are moving
10	along, but there's cabinets that we can't get our
11	hands on. So, you know, supply problems.
12	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Supply
13	problems are everywhere. You're going to hear about
14	supply problems two more times tonight. So we're
15	moving ahead.
16	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: It's all your
17	fault, Matt.
18	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That's
19	right.
20	Housing for Hoboken met on January
21	25th, and our next meeting is on February 21st.
22	Special Capital Projects. As noted
23	above we're moving forward with Harrison Gardens. I
24	did make a mistake in my printed report. The
25	emergency generator work for CCG and Monroe is

1	finally getting underway, for Christopher Columbus
2	and Monroe. If you remember
3	MR. KOTHERITHARA: Excuse, sir, it's
4	Adams.
5	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Adams.
6	MR. KOTHERITHARA: It was Adams.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I'm still
8	making that mistake. The prep work.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: It's not Monroe?
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: No, it's
11	Adams.
12	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
13	MR. KOTHERITHARA: Monroe was replaced
14	just about two years ago.
15	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay. Thank you.
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,
17	Emil.
18	Prep work will begin in the next couple
19	of weeks, so we're moving forward with that. That
20	leaves us only with part of Andrew Jackson that does
21	not have renewed emergency generators.
22	So we expect that we're bidding that
23	out, hopefully, for next summer work, but that's
24	also, if you remember, we've been waiting nine
25	months for those generators to get in, so glad to

have that moving forward.

The installation paperwork for the new boilers at Andrew Jackson Gardens through CDBG that you approved is underway. Again, six to seven months on delivering new boilers. It's just where it is right now in our world, right? So, great that we replace next summer. We'll have them in operation for next winter.

All right. Because we did come in under budget on the last, that boiler project, we are able to bid out a boiler replacement project at Monroe Gardens. If you'll remember, last summer we replaced the system at Adams, and now we'll be able to fund and bid out, that's being drawn up now, the boiler over at Monroe.

CDBG funds will be funding an increased lighting project for HHA. The City graciously gave us right around \$50,000 to do a lighting project, so we expect to light up the exteriors of our buildings even more than they are now. I do plan on doing that work under the electrical contractor that we've come to you on a resolution later to approve.

A number RFPs have been put out. We've been busy on that. They were put out Tuesday. As I mentioned earlier, resident services program

providers is out. An strategic plan for capital funds that I mentioned earlier. General legal services and special legal services is out for RFP and our security consultant services, which is our camera folks that takes care of our cameras. So they're all being bid this month.

We are going to be asking for a Procurement Committee after the proposals are received on the 28th, but before the next Board meeting.

My intent also this month is to put out a new RFP for an answering service contractor, so that's coming. We heard you. That's coming.

Management has been focused on three initiatives, to achieve and maintain that 96 percent or better occupancy rate. This past month at public housing we hit HUD's goal, 95 percent occupancy, great, which is even better than Hoboken's overall rate, but it wasn't quite at our 96, but we're staying strong at 95 and 96 percent occupancy at Fox Hill. We also have 18 units ready to be leased as of February 1st, so we should be seeing those percentages pop our next report.

So we've got Attachment 4 as your vacancy report for Fox Hill. Fox Hill had one

move-in, move-in, one move-out and one transfer. At public housing we had one move-in, one move-out and we performed five transfers over the next -- last 30 days. And I know sometimes it seems to folks that they're waiting forever for transfers and we're working through that list as fast as we can.

All right. So we're working on our PIC system with HUD, making progress, and we've made significant progress again in the issue of tenants' accounts receivables. I continue to encourage any resident with an outstanding balance to contact their manager to forestall any legal action. We will work with you. We entered about 30 additional new agreements in the last 30 days with the promise to pay of about \$100,000. We continue to make appointments for that.

Having gone over vacancies and tenants accounts receivables, Frank, you want to update us a little bit on maybe the 20 and where we are on that?

MR. MERCHAND: Good evening, everybody. As the Director mentioned, we did have an extra 30 repayments that came in. When we first started having this conversation with everybody it was around September, and we had a group of families and we had a plan to get as many folks to sign up.

Since then and up to this point what we have is 120 repayment agreements altogether. If you know of anybody who is either has a balance or wants -- no matter how small or how large, we will work with them on the repayment. Our next effort right now, what we would like to attempt, and this is something that we've come softly discussed is now the big group of folks who are left is the middle, folks who owe more than a thousand, less than 10,000.

What we propose and what we're seeing is to just go ahead and do a repayment agreement that gets sent out to those families. So let's say if somebody owes \$5,000, it will just be split over the longest possible term that we have, which is 120 months, ten years, is the most we can give somebody. It's at zero interest, right? So basically what we want to do is we want to let that land on somebody's, you know, mailbox so that they can then, without maybe -- maybe it's uncomfortable for some people to talk about finances and maybe the folks who have not come to us, it could be a matter of, like, I want to talk my manager about my money or what happened. So this is an opportunity for anybody who feels that way to just sign the contract and pay back and they're good, and in there there

would be on a letter explaining, hey, it's no interest as long as you make this payment, and that would take off so much of the headache that people feel from being behind, that feeling, is that terrible feeling.

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VOICE: Okay. And they do the contract and you said no fee, but how they get in the situation that they miss one month, that they can't do, they go to the site manager and tell them?

MR. MERCHAND: Correct. So once you're in a repayment agreement, it's even more important than when your -- you know, it's always important to pay your rent, right? But once you're in a repayment agreement, now we've kind of said, listen, we want to work with you, so we're asking that you work with us to get to that point that at the end of the day, any money that we get back from these repayments is going back to you guys in the way of services and anything that we can do through maintenance, right? So we just want to be able to capture as much of that as possible. So if everybody is in agreement, and we can find the proper way to do that in the next 30 days, I think that that's an effort that we can push forward and that would catch a big chunk of people.

1	So let's say that we can get 30 percent
2	of those folks to just return that back, that
3	already would be a significant improvement from
4	where we are right now. So everything that we've
5	done up to this point as we continue moving, it's
6	adding up. You know, hopefully the response, what
7	you're getting from your neighbors and your families
8	and friends is that, you know, I'm in the repayment,
9	I don't have to worry about that, and the more of us
10	that can communicate and help each other get to that
11	point, the better, so
12	VOICE: Can you talk to creditors, too?
13	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,
14	Frank. We appreciate that.
15	VOICE: That sounds good.
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: My intent
17	our intent is to open the waiting list for one
18	bedroom and efficiency units in March. We would
19	expect that we will have this to the Board for
20	approval at the March Board meeting and be able to
21	open up that waiting list right after the Board
22	meeting, mid-March.
23	VOICE: What's efficiency?
24	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So the one
25	bedrooms and the zero bedrooms, efficiencies,

studios, many names for those. Our waiting list on those is getting short. Our waiting list from the last waiting list process for our other units is still long. So we don't need new applicants for those. We just need applicants for the efficiencies and the one bedroom units. We would expect that we will open that up next month and that will be done, the same process that we did last time. We will open it up for folks to apply, applications will be taken, and then once those applications are closed off, a lottery will be held, all right? So if we get 5,000 applications, we're going to announce how many we're going to take. If we can only take 500, we will pick 500 names out of those by lottery, all right? And then they will be placed on the waiting -- then they are placed on the waiting list. The first step is an application to be put on the waiting list. The second process is a lottery to actually be put on the waiting list. So that process will be used. When we come with the resolution, we will have that process detailed in very clear message -- very clear to you. We will be talking about what third party will be monitoring that process with us and how we're going to do that exactly. So you will see that coming, I think,

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1	we're ready to go out and do that right after the
2	Board meeting in March, all right?
3	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Director, quick
4	question on that. I know that you're saying one
5	bedrooms and studios.
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes.
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: So when you say the
8	one bedrooms, is that in the regular Housing
9	Authority or meaning like the family buildings,
10	because I know.
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Both.
12	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: It's not Fox
13	Hill.
14	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Well, I'll
15	get to Fox Hill next.
16	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: As part of
17	this discussion.
18	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay, okay.
19	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Fox Hill is
20	a separate waiting list. We are going to open it up
21	for Fox Hill too, all right? But there's a public
22	housing waiting list now and there's a Fox Hill
23	waiting list. So both of those will be opened and
24	that will include our elderly and disabled buildings
25	as well as our main campus buildings and anywhere

1	else there's a one bedroom or efficiency.
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
3	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: And this will
4	be in much more detail next month, as the Director
5	described, but if anybody wanted to be considered
6	for both
7	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Right.
8	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: you have
9	to submit two applications.
10	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Two applications.
11	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
12	VOICE: But there's no studio over
13	there.
1.4	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: And then you
15	would be in both lotteries, okay?
16	We have formed an internal group with
17	staff, just to tell everyone, that's working on our
18	pet policy. So we do intend, over the next 30, 60
19	days, to have a new enforcement policy out on pets.
20	The incidents of unleashed dogs, dogs that threaten
21	the personal enjoyment, we're going to be taking
22	action on this, and we need to get the dogs that are
23	not registered out. We need to get the dogs that
2 4	are not in compliance with our policy out. So
25	you're going to see us take this step by step.

1 You're going to see us coming and talking to you at 2 your re-examination time as well as with any 3 inspections we do on units. Was there a dog in the 4 unit? Yes. Is that dog registered with us? No. 5 That's a problem. Was that dog too big for our pet policy? That's a problem. So you're going to see 7 us taking action on this over the next couple of 8 months.

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The selection of a new laundry service supplier is before the Board tonight. You know we've been working on this for a while. The Facilities Committee met on February 2nd, and we're all set to go with that as long as the Board passes the resolution tonight.

I should mention that the RAD board did meet on February 7th. I didn't put that in my report. I missed it last night. We talked about security. We talked about budgets. Upcoming events. We talked about the redevelopment projects, as I've talked to you tonight, and we went over our new criminal policy as well as our nighttime policy at that meeting.

On housing Choice Vouchers, we are revising our project-based voucher request for proposal. We're just grinding away at it to try to

1	get it right.
2	On our maintenance report for tonight,
3	Sammy, do you where is Sammy? Where is he
4	hiding? You want to say anything about power
5	washing?
6	MR. FERMAINT: Well, the power washing
7	we stopped for the season.
8	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Stopped it
9	for the season.
10	MR. FERMAINT: Yeah, so we will
11	continue once the weather starts getting much
12	better.
13	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: You did a
1 4	great job on the Harrison courtyard.
15	MR. FERMAINT: We did the Harrison
16	courtyard, we did the Jackson side street. We did a
17	few of the basements as well that were much needed,
18	there was the sewage backup when it rains, and we'll
19	just keep plugging away at them. Once the weather
20	gets much better we can put the machines outside and
21	start running them, we will continue running, and
22	you will have a report in regards to having that
23	power wash system when it starts.
2 4	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,

Sammy, and yeah, we don't want to give any of our

guys pneumonia, so we stopped for the winter, but it's moving along.

So building cleanliness is a big topic. We did talk about bringing on additional building maintenance workers who are working for us. We have since hired four part-time employees to bolster that cleaning staff. We just got notice, by the way, that two of those -- not those employees, other employees on that BMW staff are going to be leaving us. Fine, they're good, great relationship, but they're moving on. One guy is retiring and then one guy is just going on to something else in his life, fine. So we will be bringing on two more to replace them, so we're moving ahead with that.

We're bidding out the work that would provide a regular four-month cycle of floor stripping and waxing and stairwell deep cleaning.

My concept there is we take that off of the day-to-day. Our guys can then come back, our guys and ladies could then come back and maintain that, but if we have a four-month cycle of a company coming in, stripping, waxing, doing a great job on the floor stripping and deep cleaning, so we're specifying those now and we're going to be taking bids on those soon.

It should be mentioned again that building cleanliness takes all of us, takes all of us, right? And when people leave trash in the hallways, when people try to stick Christmas trees down the trash chutes, people, I mean, you know, it takes all of us. So please keep in touch with us. Please keep your eyes open. We try to respond as quickly as possible and I think you've seen we have, when somebody contacts us with a particular problem, but it's hard. Our guys can go through at two in the afternoon and by 4 o'clock somebody has done something untoward in the stairwells. So we're working hard at it to give you the best service we can.

As noted last month, again, we currently have a building mechanic position open as well. We had one of our good mechanics leave us a couple of months ago, so we're taking applications for a good mechanically skilled building maintenance individual.

We continue regular extermination services, and I hear you about the extermination, and we'll try to get out to your apartment just as soon as we can tomorrow. And one of our recent focuses has been on this rodent issue. They're

everywhere and we keep fighting them. We're focusing on extra cleanliness, to close up any accesses that these rodents have to our buildings from the outside or from the cellars up into the buildings and extra extermination measures.

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Number of things we're doing specifically. Extra rodent poison boxes deployed at the exterior of our buildings, those are those black boxes that you see outside the buildings. Staff has a special project to close up interior holes from the exterior to the interior of our buildings. Any abandoned drains, electrical chases, things that have been left for 70, over the last 70 years, that there's a crack, there's a way that a rodent can get into our buildings, Sammy's crew is actually going through concreting them, cementing them up, closing them up so the animals can't get into our buildings. Of course, we're still going around filling up holes on the outside, and as you may know, we fill them, they build a new one. We fill them, they dig a new one. So we're keeping at that, though. If you see something, contact us. We'll be glad to send a crew out. We're clearing out any older abandoned equipment in our basement areas, doing a lot of work in our cellars, making sure that they have no place

to nest, that they're disinfected and clean. We have extra Dumpsters on order, not to provide more trash area, so that our Dumpsters don't get full and overflowing, and again, spring is coming, right?

Spring and summer, and that's when the big problems are.

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We are performing special cleaning and painting in our compactor areas. Our new BMW Supervisor Joseph is having all compactor rooms deep cleaned, painted, and treated. And we're actually painting, so it looks nice, shiny. He's requiring staff to keep them that way, doing regular inspections, because those are real harbors, those compactor rooms, so we want to make sure they're clean, that they're sealed off, that they can't get anywhere else in the building, and, of course, we continue to work on special emergency and preventative repairs through the age of our buildings. I did put Attachment 5, as I always do, on your Director's report tonight and that has -- I want you to get your head around this, that has eight major plumbing issues that we've had to resolve in the last 30 days. That's not maintenance, that is capital improvement. So when our staff reacts, shows up to that leak, opens the

1 wall, fixes 10 feet of pipe, comes in, makes it 2 happen, closes it up professionally, gets back, 3 closes up that wall, those are big projects for our 4 staff. And I just -- I got to tell you, I'm proud 5 of them. When you take a look month to month to month, what Sammy, Jackie and your crew does out 6 7 there on doing that, I mean, it's amazing. They're doing great work that would cost us thousands of 8 9 dollars to outsource all the time, and it's almost 10 impossible because, you know, my whack-a-mole thing, 11 right? I get up on Paterson Plank, I look down on 12 all of our properties, and it's like, oh, boom, 13 where is it going to happen next? Where is it going 14 to happen next? Because it never stops. It just 15 keeps going, right? And but we're prepared. We can 16 run, we've got talented people on our staff that 17 work really, really hard for you out there. thank you for that, Sammy. I just want to have 18 everyone understand that this isn't normal stuff. 19 20 If you have a building that's five years old, this 21 doesn't happen, all right? This just doesn't. And 22 we don't get paid any extra money. We don't -- HUD 23 doesn't give us extra money for this. We get paid 24 the same amount of money that a brand new building 25 does and we got to make it happen with that reduced

1	funding.
2	Harrison. Harrison elevator, I wrote
3	in here "Great news." The elevator is back in
4	service and then we got a call about an hour ago
5	saying it was down about an hour ago.
6	MR. FERMAINT: They're on their way
7	now.
8	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: They're on
9	their way now to get it back working. I went, "Oh,
10	man." Yeah, but it's back, the 310 elevator is
11	back. They'll have it back in service shortly.
12	We're close to completion of carbon
13	monoxide detectors in all of our units, only a few
14	left. The addition of that gate at Mama Johnson
15	Field is complete and by the end of March we'll have
16	that panic bar release on the interior of that gate
17	before summer comes.
18	Snow removal equipment is ready to go.
19	I hope we still don't have to use it, but it's there
20	and ready to go.
21	Boiler systems are up and running. We
22	did have a major water line valve break at Adams
23	Gardens over the weekend of January 28th. I'm
24	incredibly proud of our staff. There was
25	professional response that they had over the

Ι	weekend, by Sunday it was done, it was complete, it
2	was fixed with very minor inconvenience to our
3	residents over at Adams. We had to shut the water
4	down, I think, for a couple of hours. They got in,
5	got it fixed, and back out. So good team.
6	As time allows, I'm approving overtime
7	work for our maintenance team led by Sammy to
8	address REAC violations found during last year's
9	REAC inspection. Of course, we're getting ready,
10	2023 inspections will be here any time, and I'd like
11	to put an add-on to that that I do intend to bring
12	in an independent third-party team to do a pre-REAC
13	inspection for us, before the REAC inspectors get
14	here, in order to identify issues and strategize on
15	how we can get our score up to where it needs to be.
16	We're never with our buildings, you're never
17	going to get a hundred, probably never going to get
18	85, but we can pass our REAC inspections with the
19	wind at our backs.
20	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Just a quick
21	question there.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes.
23	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: We're still
24	we failed the last one, right?

COURT STENOGRAPHER: I'm sorry, I

1	cannot understand him.
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: He said, "We failed
3	the last one."
4	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: He said, "We
5	failed the last one, right?"
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes, we did
7	Yes, we did.
8	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: He said, "We
9	failed the last one, right?"
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes, we did
11	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: So we're
12	what is Sammy getting paid overtime to do if you're
13	going to hire the inspector to come in and tell us
14	what to fix?
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So Sammy's
16	actually doing the repairs already. From the last
17	REAC inspection, when they said that there's a
18	threshold with a tripping hazard, he's fixing that
19	threshold with the tripping hazard. When he said
20	down in the boiler room there might have been a box
21	that wasn't completely secured for electrical
22	equipment, he's securing that electrical box. He's
23	already going through those inspections and
24	following where we had the most points and
25	addressing those issues. So he's actually fixing

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1 +	hem.

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Now, what I want hext Is somebody to
come in and tell us what's new in REAC, because they
look at different things every year. They have a
they usually have a focus every year. So they know,
they can come in, tell us exactly where we ought to
be focusing the rest of our efforts for the year,
see what we can do to actually try to get that
passing grade this coming year.

COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: When was the failed inspection?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: The last inspections were last summer and I don't have the days with me, but they were during the summertime last year.

COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: So from last summer have you done anything to fix those issues?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That's what Sammy is doing with his crew. He's going through step by step, item by item to fix as many as he can. Now, you give me 5 million, I'll fix all of them.

COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yeah, I hear you. I just -- what I'm concerned about is I hope we're not leaving it to like the last minute and that's why we're paying overtime.

1	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: No, that's
2	why I'm
3	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Instead of
4	like
5	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Well,
6	Commissioner
7	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: It's going
8	through the whole process and over the course of the
9	year.
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That's why
11	I'm bringing
12	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Now he's busy
13	with, you know, leaks and pipes and it seems like
1 4	now we're like in the fourth quarter, and like, oh,
15	man, now we've got to pay him overtime to fix some
16	of these issues that we left through the course of
17	the year.
18	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We're not
19	quite at halftime yet. We're getting there. But
20	we're maybe into the third quarter now, and he's
21	been working on it since the first quarter. So, you
22	know, that's why I bring it up, because they are
23	working. We are making that investment month to
2 4	month to month, all right?
2.5	CHAIRWOMAN REVEC. Unfortunately we

have pipes broken every month, so it's not something where he can say, "Well, I'm going to leave it and then do it," because every month we're going through this on our bills and on the report that's where you're having major issues, so...

COMMISSIONER LEWIT: And the pipes are generally worth -- you know, they work for 75 years, a lot of them break at 65 years, and but at 75 years, they all need to be replaced or you have a headache.

CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yeah, I know, I know. I see this every day.

some of the issues we're dealing with, Commissioner Impastato, that if we could hire 20 guys and have them out, we could probably pass easily. Given, though, that our buildings are just that old, that things are constantly happening to them, things are constantly deteriorating, and we're constantly addressing them, but our scores have gotten better. As a matter of fact, HUD told us last year they were pretty pleased with the progress we made and we're hoping this year that we'll get over that hump this year, but we'll keep on, we'll keep on.

25 COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Okay. Thank

1 you.

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you.

We are moving ahead with the special project before summer to get -- to require all air conditioners at HHA to be installed with an HHA-supplied and installed window bracket, so we're out shopping for window brackets and we're going to be rolling that out in April and May, that every single air conditioner's going to have a window bracket.

Finance is working on HMFA project close-out, contract management. We've been working with Enterprise on where we need some additional bolstered staff and I agree with them that a position that is usually called the modernization coordinator is needed. This is somebody that would be working directly for Emil. This is somebody that would be working on writing, publishing, and doing contract management and budgets on construction work, on special project work, making sure all of the guidelines are met under HUD contracts, whether it be Section 3 guidelines on project area residents, excuse me, prevailing wages, that whole range of things, making sure inspections are being done, making sure —

1	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: And who does that
2	now Director?
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Right now
4	it's really shared between Emil and I and it's time
5	we got some help. We're going to have a lot of work
6	going on over the next couple of years, so
7	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: That's good.
8	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yeah, yeah.
9	And once we start building, once we start moving,
10	yeah. We're going to need that position. So we're
11	developing the job description for that now.
12	One of the things that I'm excited
13	about that looks good for us is we are working on a
14	procedure for sending a monthly billing statement
15	out to every resident. Every resident.
16	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Right.
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That you
18	would get a monthly statement from us, midmonth,
19	right about midmonth, say midmonth in February, that
20	says: On March 1st this is what you owe us. Right?
21	And it would detail that.
22	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: And where are we
23	with being able to do like the on-line payments?
24	Where
25	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Talked about

_	To coday. So we se going back to our banks to see
2	how we can get what's called that ACH approval and
3	we're going to try to get that approved by the time
4	this rolls out.
5	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
6	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: What's the holdup
7	on that? I forgot what you told me last time, when
8	we talked about it.
9	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I think it's
10	basically Emil, you want to give that background?
11	I mean, it's basically working that deal with our
12	two banks that we do, that they will allow us to
13	have enough money in their bank to cover the amounts
1.4	that are paid.
15	Emil, is that fair?
16	MR. KOTHERITHARA: Yeah, it's just
17	getting those forms through the bank and getting
18	their approval on exactly what the daily limit is
19	going to be for the deposit processing. So we just
20	got to coordinate that with PNC and Provident, our
21	two banks.
22	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: So why haven't we?
23	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I think we
2 4	just had other things on our plate.
25	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Can we start?

1	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We have.
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Because I think it's
3	just it's going to make it easier for the
4	residents.
5	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We actually
6	met on it this morning.
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
8	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So we agree.
9	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: By next month?
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We'll push.
11	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: All right.
12	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We'll push.
13	We like
14	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Let's put a time
15	frame on it.
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: It will help
17	us too. It will help us too.
18	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: It's going to help
19	with the repayment, because I feel like if they
20	don't have to go down to the office and they can
21	just do it straight out of their bank or on a
22	website, it's going to be a lot easier.
23	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We agree.
24	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Wasn't this
25	part of the software, that we were supposed to have

Τ	a new soltware:
2	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yeah, and
3	the new software
4	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Putting in a
5	maintenance request.
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: The new
7	software allows we couldn't do this with our old
8	software, but the new software does have feature
9	baked in, but we just got to connect the new
10	software with the bank, boom, and then we go.
11	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Can a resident
12	put in a maintenance request with the new software?
13	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Not yet.
14	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: So what's the
15	holdup there?
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Well, we
17	haven't gone to that system of there's only so
18	much band width in maintenance right now, so we've
19	stayed with the system we have of calling in a work
20	order to the manager, so we just again, there's
21	only so much band width we have and it's kind of on
22	our checklist, put it on that checklist and make
23	that happen.
24	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: But the
25	software that we have, the resident can go into the

Τ	system, but (audio distortion) the system, it's not
2	working.
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes, they
4	will
5	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Is that right?
6	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: We will be able.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: We will be
8	able to.
9	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Is there I
10	guess, you know, I think we've been talking about
11	this like for almost a year now, so, you know, I
12	think we'd like to see someone I get it, we've
13	got a lot going on, but to Commissioner Russo's
14	point, maybe some timelines and some goals and we
15	could help you or, you know, we can get those and
16	timelines and get the process and keep going.
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Why don't I
18	come back to you at the next meeting with a report
19	on the timeline and what we can do to accomplish
20	this?
21	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: That would be good.
22	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Thank you.
23	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: That works.
24	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Be glad to.
25	We've got two we're moving over to

the final part of the my report, which is the Resident Services Report. I'd like to just focus real quickly on two of the major events we got coming up because we want everyone to be involved and the two major events, beyond everything else that Daniel is going to talk to us about, is an HHA Hall of Fame series that we're kicking off in the coming week and a Black History Month celebration that's going to be on the 24th.

So what I'm going to ask first is

Corinne to talk to us about the Hall of Fame, she's

playing lead on that, and then Daniel on the Black

History Month celebration, and then Daniel can move

on with the rest of his report.

Corinne, you want to tell us a little bit about the Hall of Fame series, and this will be a series. This isn't a one-time shot. We're going to be doing this Hall of Fame series over time.

Corinne?

MS. RICHMOND: So I don't know if everyone has seen that on line and on Facebook. The HHA Hall of Fame is pretty much bringing the people that were born and raised here, that have grown up to be lawyers, doctors, teachers, you know, and bring them here to speak to the youth and show them

that there are good things that can come out of our community. So it's pretty much us telling our stories, you know? You don't want someone else to write your story, because they don't know how a person is going to write it. We don't want someone from the outside to write our stories, otherwise it would be stories of crime, it would be stories of all the bad things that are happening here, but if we pick out the good seeds that would born and raised here and they'll come and speak to our youth, to be able to instill those stories of successes, because these people that were born and raised here, so they have faced the same challenges and they were able to overcome. So they will come and speak to our youth to say that: You know what, I was born and raised here. I was able to make it. You are also able to make it. So this is what we really want to show our youth, you know how in -- they say that representation matters. If you see a black person on TV being a doctor, you would aspire to be a doctor as a black person. If you see a black person on TV doing drugs or all sorts of bad things, this is what you have as an example and this is what -- and cautiously you might aspire to be, but if you see good example of people of color, black

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people like you that face the same challenges as you being able to overcome, then it gives you the courage and the motivation to be like them. So this is really what we want to do with this initiative, and this is a very first time that we are doing it. We plan on having a series to maybe doing every -maybe being able to do it every three months or every couple of months, but for the very first edition we really need everyone to come and to be present, because we are going to invite people and we don't want -- you know, we don't want three people to show up, you know. So if you have to bring kids, invite them because this is a great platform for them to be informed and to see people that look like them, that talk like them, that are walking in their shoe, be able to present and showcase great examples.

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Jackson here. We are going to have food. It's a Black History event. We are going to have food. We are going to have music. And this is also going to be possibly a great opportunity for mentorship, so we see how — how the event will unfold and what we can do in the future, but we really, really, really need your support, really need you to invite your

1	grandchildren, your children to be part of this.
2	Thank you.
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,
4	Corinne.
5	(Applause.)
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: And I would
7	just add, as Daniel gets up, that if you know
8	somebody that's become a super successful attorney
9	in Los Angeles, right, or whatever, or here, or has
10	become a successfully plumber or a successful
11	electrician, refer them over to us, because this
12	series will go on.
13	VOICE: Mike Turner, start with him.
14	Mike Turner.
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yeah.
16	VOICE: Start with Mike Turner.
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That's
18	right.
19	VOICE: From the Housing Authority, he
20	became a Battalion Chief, and now he's a star on
21	Survivor.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: You bet you.
23	You bet you. There are so many people that we're
24	finding, so let's make that happen.
25	Daniel, please.

MR. PEREZ: And please reach out to
Corinne or the office and share those names. We
definitely want to make sure to highlight those
great achievers that came from the Hoboken Housing
Authority. On the same theme of Black History,
we're celebrating after what, three, four years, of
not celebrating Black History Month, we're back
February 24th with the Resident Advisory Board and
the entire community, we're going to be celebrating
history, culture, and the contribution of African
Americans in the state.

So this is going to be at 221 Jackson Street, right, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. So please join us. It's going to be an amazing event. We want to be able on bring back all of our folks, our community together, for this celebration of Black History month.

I want to go back up to highlights and recognition.

As you know, Ray Rodriguez, who is a founder of Amazing Truth Society, which is a karate program at the Housing Authority, a decade-long commitment to our kids, right? He was recognized by this premier magazine, martial arts magazine, so he wasn't able to come tonight. Unfortunately, his car

broke down, but I wanted to share, you know, his achievement. He's been working with the Hoboken Housing Authority for over what, 12 years now, and it's great when, you know, a magazine is able to recognize his commitment, his contribution, and his love for this community. So we really appreciate Ray Rodriguez and the work that he's brought to the Housing Authority.

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Similarly, Michelle Lessane, a Resident Advisory Board member for Andrew Jackson had shared this great idea with our Councilman Ruben Ramos right, about bringing the community together, having a family festival. So yesterday we met with the City of Hoboken representatives, right, and we're planning this amazing event for the summer. So we're bringing together our community. We're bringing together our nonprofits, we're bringing together our businesses in order for us to create inclusion and community engagement in the Fourth Ward. So we're going to be coming back with more meetings with our Resident Advisory Board and businesses so that way we can join together in this event. So we're going to be getting more information about this upcoming festival as we start this planning process, and we're very happy that the

City of Hoboken has undertaken this event in order to promote more activities and programs for the west side of Hoboken.

So we're really, really excited for that.

So I want to share a couple more things in highlights.

So Amy Goldman approached the Hoboken Housing Authority through Hug Hoboken and the Girl Scouts and they want to start a troop here at the Hoboken Housing Authority. So any parents that are interested in being troop leaders, please contact the Hoboken Housing Authority office. We would like to get your name and send it over to Amy Goldman so that we can start that process of creating a Girl Scout troop here in our property, in our community many.

Also, Heart To Heart is a pilot program that we want to start with our residents here. Any families that's interested in getting a home-cooked meal, we're going to be matched to a Hoboken family. So please let us know if you're interested in participating in this pilot program. So please share. We already put out the fliers, you know, for this amazing program through Hug Hoboken, Heart To

1	Heart, and the Girl Scouts.
2	And I want to go down again to events
3	and programs really quickly.
4	I want to focus Carmen Vega, who is a
5	Resident Advisory Board member and president for Fox
6	Hill is having a Super Bowl party this Sunday.
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Nice.
8	MR. PEREZ: So if anyone would like to
9	go and have some fun and watch the game, starts at
10	5:00 p.m., Super Bowl party, so please join Fox Hill
11	residents, you know, having fun in this Super Bowl.
12	And finally, go Eagles.
13	(Laughter. Applause.)
14	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Director, I want
15	that stricken from the record, please.
16	(Laughter.)
17	ATTORNEY M. FITZPATRICK: Boo.
18	VOICE: Hey, listen. His brother was a
19	player on there, I used to watch him.
20	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: That's right.
21	That's right.
22	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I just want to add,
23	unfortunately I didn't send it to Danny prior to the
24	meeting, but just so everyone knows, HOPES has
25	started our free tax preparation program. It

started at the beginning of February. So we are
preparing taxes for free for anyone in the
community. We don't just service Hoboken, we
service the entire county, so it doesn't have to be
somebody from here. Even if you don't live here,
just contact us, reach out, I will send over the
flier tomorrow so that you guys can provide it to
the residents, not only, but also to your staff.
It's open to anyone. So we're willing to do that.

Barbara.

guys know, unfortunately, this week we're struggling with a staff member at our Family Resource Center here in the Housing Authority, so because tax season — we're down one staff member. Because tax season has happened, there may be days where the Family Resource Center, we just don't have enough staffing. We'll have a sign up, if they need help, they can always see us at 301 Garden. It's not going to be a consistent thing. We're going to try our best to keep it open, but unfortunately this is an unforeseen thing, so we will be working with you guys and I'll be informing you, Frank, or Mr. Recko.

COMMISSIONER FORBES: Excuse me,

We always appreciate HOPES very much.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Thank you,

1	Madame, Chair, I just want to comment on one thing.
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Sure.
3	COMMISSIONER FORBES: I just want to
4	compliment Danny for the equitable work that he's
5	doing to make go sure that our residents have
6	programs and activities to do. That's the housing
7	that I grew up in. My mother was a big part of
8	that, working in the community, arts and crafts, and
9	things of that nature, so I'm just happy to see that
10	we have things on the calendar that our residents
11	could participate in. So I just want to say: Kudos
12	for you, my friend, and also go Birds.
13	(Laughter.)
14	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: We've lost all
15	control at this meeting. All control.
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So in
17	closing, is there anything that our Hoboken Police
18	Department folks would like to say? Anything?
19	VOICE: Commissioner Impastato is on
20	there it, right?
21	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes, he is. He's on
22	mute, but he's here.
23	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: I'm listening.
24	VOICE: That's right. Go ahead.
25	COURT STENOGRAPHER: Can I just have

1	your name?
2	SGT. COLLINS: Sergeant Williams
3	Collins.
4	COURT STENOGRAPHER: Could you spell
5	the last name?
6	SGT. COLLINS: C-O-L-I-N-S.
7	No, just I'm happy to hear everything
8	going on. That is a great idea. For us, I don't
9	know if anybody has any questions. Everything,
10	knock on wood, has been good lately. I don't want
11	to jinx it. My one tip, I know the Commissioner
12	always wants one. I would I'm going to switch
13	over a little bit of the fire department. As you
14	see recently now the New York, the bicycles, the
15	lithium batteries and stuff? Our fire department
16	actually just tweeted it. If people all know, we
17	have a new a PIA, it's like a PIO, Marcy Ruben
18	came over, so she's doing the Police, Fire, EMS,
19	OEM. She's helping with social media, everything
20	like that. So, you know, be careful if you have
21	grandkids or kids or whatever with the scooters or
22	those bikes. I mean, even in these apartments, it

I mean, everything has been good. The

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careful.

could happen. You put it in a closet and so just be

Т	one thing that in my head that I was thinking about
2	while I was sitting here is that I always see the
3	same faces at all these meetings when we come or
4	whatever. So I guess try your best to get more
5	people, you know, to come and hear everything that's
6	going on and, you know, I would love to have more
7	questions for the police department. If anybody
8	does, I'm here.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I do.
10	SGT. COLLINS: Who does? You do?
11	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
12	SGT. COLLINS: Here I am. You never
13	held back, so
14	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Actually, I was
15	hoping that we had some security come in the meeting
16	this month, but we didn't
17	SGT. COLLINS: Okay.
18	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: so some of the
19	complaints that I have heard have been Harrison
20	Gardens, that hanging out continues; 311 Harrison,
21	terrible.
22	I went there myself. Last week I was
23	visiting a neighbor of mine, a former neighbor, and
24	I walked in and hanging out in the hallway, the same
25	thing that I used to go through. Unfortunately, I

guess the residents there are afraid to call, so they don't, and they kind of just deal with it.

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One thing that I found odd that wasn't happening before that is happening is that it's not only happening on the first floor. So they're doing it on other floors. So like fourth, sixth floor you have hangouts in the hallway, and I don't know if maybe it's new residents that are moving in and hanging out in those hallways, but not only is it a nuisance, after that they leave garbage everywhere. I mean, I have a resident that sends like, look, I have to clean this up. They party there and then I have to clean it up. And it's not fair to the resident, it's not fair to the maintenance department that has to go there every day and clean up. So I think that's the difference, and I think that we have to be a little bit more vigilante, I want to say. I'm glad to hear that there are going to be cameras on every floor because then maybe, you know, that will help us to curb what's happening there, but it's happening, and so that's one of the concerns.

SGT. COLLINS: Yeah.

CHAIRWOMAN REYES: And we all know the concerns of the horseshoe, I mean. I don't have

1 to -- same concerns as always.

asking me my name.

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2 SGT. COLLINS: So the answer with the 3 hallways, and I know it sounds like a broken record, 4 but just so I would like everybody to hear the 5 answer, is a lot of our times -- a lot of times our hands are tied where we understand there's 6 7 trespassers. We understand, we know. Sometimes there's other younger people hanging out with people 8 9 that live here. That makes it tough because we're 10 not going to just -- all day long, you could be 11 friends with him, you can't be friends with. That's -- I don't want to say that's not our job, 12 13 but that's tough, that's your friend and whatever, 14 and it is intimidating seeing the stairs blocked and stuff. Oh, you just want to simply bring your 15 16 groceries in and go up, I get it, it's frustrating. 17 We understand that. Please call. If you want, block your number, it's okay. You don't have to 18 19 give your name. I know our dispatcher will ask. 20 You do not have to give your name. You don't. 21 I'm --22 VOICE: They won't connect you to 23 anyone unless you give your name.

I could be getting killed and you're

Τ	SGT. COLLINS: Right. Listen, the one
2	thing I'll say about that is please, if you're
3	having a problem with our dispatchers, please let
4	Commissioners know, let please let Barbara know.
5	She knows exactly what to do with that information.
6	We've handled this before, this issue, and it's been
7	handled, you know, by our command staff and the
8	police chief, he does handle it. I'm sorry if that
9	is happening and it's frustrating to hear. I get
10	angry hearing it. We do try. A little bit becomes
11	on where we spoke about this with the building
12	managers, stuff like that, where if it is young
13	people that do live in the Authority, who are we to
14	say: Hey, don't sit there?
15	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: But we can as the
16	Housing Authority, so I think that's what
17	(Simultaneous crosstalk.)
18	SGT. COLLINS: Right. Correct. A
19	hundred percent.
20	COURT STENOGRAPHER: All right. Wait a
21	second. I've got everybody talking in all different
22	directions. Let's get one at a time.
23	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: I love you.
24	VOICE: I say, when you come out your
25	apartment, you're likely to fall over somebody. I'm

a senior citizen. I have a hard time walking out there and you trying to get in your apartment all night long. It's a mess going on up on my floor.

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SGT. COLLINS: Just please --

VOICE: Been told and told and told, there's nothing being done.

SGT. COLLINS: Please call us, because one thing I will speak for, and one of the Tour Commander for this shift, 4 to 12, and one of the sergeants are here, are top of -- I work this shift mainly evenings with my detectives. Our uniformed officers are doing a lot of vertical building sweeps, we call them building sweeps. Going in, coming down. We've been -- Sergeant Luciano e-mails the directors our arrest reports, stuff like that, to keep them updated. There have been arrests been being made. Granted, if we make an arrest in one building, obviously we're out of service a little bit, you know, but we're hustling back down and we're trying, you know, I mean, we are trying very hard. We know our officers are doing the job because the proof's in the pudding, because people that don't belong, they're trespassing, they're going in handcuffs and they're coming up to the police station. Granted, they don't go to jail for

1	just trespassing, but, you know, they're identified,
2	they're arrested, they have to go to court. We're
3	trying our best. I would say, in a certain
4	buildings, please just make those make sure the
5	doors are shut behind you. I know sometimes things
6	are jammed. We all try, when we're doing these
7	building sweeps, we try to unjam them. We'll call
8	the Housing Authority. I, personally when I'm
9	working, will text message both directors at 11, 12,
10	one in the morning, and they do answer, I could
11	tell I could always tell you that, they always
12	one of them will answer my texts.
13	The horseshoe thing, we're working on

The horseshoe thing, we're working on it. We always work on it. I feel like just sometimes it's just --

VOICE: Too much.

SGT. COLLINS: Right. When we make an impact, it just -- it takes a little bit of time and then it goes back, and then we have to do it again. We're trying, we are. I promise you, we are trying. It's not a lack of trying.

Like I said, our uniformed officers are making plenty of arrests. The detectives that I have working with me, we're making plenty of arrests. It's just it's always a work in progress,

Τ	I won't lie. I won't stand here and say, you know,
2	on top of other things we have going on, we do try
3	hard. So anybody having any problem communicating
4	to the police department, please, please let one of
5	your Commissioners know or let the Director know.
6	He'll contact me or one of us and we'll get to the
7	bottom of it, because our phone lines are taped,
8	stuff like that. If you know the day and time,
9	whatever, we'll find it out, we'll search it, and we
10	don't want to hear that somebody is not getting
11	their message through just because they don't want
12	to give their name or phone number. That's
13	unacceptable. We do take the call. So I hate to
14	hear it. You know, so
15	VOICE: Can I say something?
16	SGT. COLLINS: Uh-huh.
17	VOICE: She's right. I told her,
18	because she's my pastor's mother.
19	SGT. COLLINS: Okay.
20	VOICE: I have told her and her
21	daughter to call the police. She gets petrified, so
22	she's not you know, to call the police and then
23	she was told, come that she go downstairs to get
24	the security. I mean, she could like she said,

yeah, she could barely walk, so couldn't you have

the officers, like, check these buildings, the
floor --

VOICE: But they do do it. Early in the morning. Early in the morning. But the idea is that the residents, the people that comes in, they'll come in before the cops come. They time it, I noticed, because I go to the dialysis in the morning, and I'm out of here early in the morning in the lobby, they'll wait till the security leave at four, our security, and then they'll stand there and they'll hide in the corner or they'll try to come in when you're going out.

SGT. COLLINS: Right.

VOICE: And I'm going to tell you the incident on that, because when I went out four in the morning, they told Mr. Recko when we had our meeting, the one guy, he hide in the corner. I didn't see him. When I went to the door, he scared me. He tell me, "Oh, let me in," and I said, "No." So he was like banging on the door, and I said, "You bang on the door, the camera's on." And he was like set there and waiting. He said, "Well, I will ring the bell." He didn't want to ring the bell. So right then and there I called the police department because I have to go out because the bus is picking

1	me up. He said, "Well, oh, let me in," and I said,
2	"Nope."
3	SGT. COLLINS: Good.
4	VOICE: So I made me a little cocktail
5	thing, spray. Yes, I did, I told him.
6	So after I called the cops, then they
7	waited and waited, came, you know, it was a while,
8	then my bus came, and he came in. I was going out.
9	The cops said, "Well, did you handle it?" I said,
10	"No, I'm not handling it. You should have been
11	here."
12	SGT. COLLINS: Yeah, they should have.
13	All right.
14	VOICE: But I didn't have time to look
15	at his badge or anything, but I have to go on the
16	bus.
17	SGT. COLLINS: Okay.
18	VOICE: But I mean he when I came
19	in, when I went out, he came in and went up on the
20	elevator.
21	SGT. COLLINS: All right. It's
22	something we do check this
23	VOICE: Yeah, you do check
24	SGT. COLLINS: We check 220 Adams and
25	311th Street.

1	VOICE: You do, you come in the
2	morning.
3	SGT. COLLINS: Like I said, it's hit or
4	miss.
5	COURT STENOGRAPHER: I've got you both
6	talking. I've got you both talking.
7	SGT. COLLINS: That's my faults.
8	VOICE: They do come after four, but
9	sometimes people do, and at nighttime we have
10	different other people coming in.
11	SGT. COLLINS: Okay.
12	VOICE: And I said, "Why is you out so
13	early in the morning?" "Oh, I'm going to the
14	store." "Yeah, you going to the store all right."
15	SGT. COLLINS: Well, it's something
16	we'll address. I'm sure the lieutenant and the
17	sergeant in the back just heard you too, so it's
18	something we'll address on this shift especially
19	and, you know, early in the morning, I'm glad to
20	hear it, that's our midnight shift, I'm glad to hear
21	that. So we'll talk to our people and maybe pick
22	them up a little bit, this building specifically,
23	just, you know, we'll shift around and try to pool
2 4	them when we're in here and maybe we'll get them or
25	not.

1	VOICE: Maybe you could answer my
2	question, if you have a tenant right next to you
3	that is constantly smoking marijuana, and you're
4	scared to call the cops because you think that that
5	person is going to harm you because you're calling
6	the police, what are you doing?
7	SGT. COLLINS: So right now, so that's
8	a specific problem
9	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That's
10	right.
11	SGT. COLLINS: So smoking so as we
12	know, marijuana is not illegal anymore.
13	VOICE: Anymore.
14	SGT. COLLINS: If that's a specific
15	problem you're having right now, it's I don't
16	we'll always help. You could always call the police
17	for help, that's our job, that's what we get paid to
18	do. I would suggest now speaking to the building
19	manager or the Director afterwards because that's
20	more of, like, a policy or a Housing Authority
21	violation or whatnot, something like that. That
22	would be something that the Housing Authority has to
23	handle. I'm not saying we won't help, but it's
24	not if we went and knocked on the door and they

opened the door and it smelled like weed and we say,

1	"Hey, how are you?" Listen, whatever, and they say,
2	"Well, what do you want?" and we go, "Well, your
3	neighbor" "Well, I don't want to talk to you,"
4	and close the door. They're allowed to close the
5	door.

6 VOICE: Yeah, but it's legal.

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CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I'm sorry, I'm sorry, guys. I think it's very important. I think this has now turned into a public safety meeting, and I'm not trying to be rude, Sergeant Collins, I know you're trying to answer everybody's questions, but I think, honestly, what we need to do is have a resident meeting with the police there so that you guys have ample time to discuss all these issues that are happening. These are things that are happening. They have been brought to my attention. I've been told they have been brought to the administration's attention. So I think that it's --Andrew, as the Chair, of the Security Committee if we can have not just a committee meeting, but also a resident meeting specifically with the Hoboken Police Department so that the residents can speak and voice their concerns so we can move forward with resolving these issues.

COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Okay.

1	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay?
2	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Excellent.
3	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Madame Chair, if I
4	could make a suggestion.
5	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Sure.
6	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Director, while
7	you're doing your meetings throughout the Authority,
8	maybe there's a way you could coordinate in having
9	someone from the police department at all of those
10	meetings as well as these meetings as these
11	issues come up you could have at least some
12	representation from the Hoboken Police Department
13	there, answer some of those questions, in addition
1.4	to very specific security and police issue.
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Will do.
16	And we'll reach out to Sergeant Collins.
17	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Also, are we
18	able to tap into the new hire, Mrs. Ruben, Ms.
19	Ruben, where she can also attend some of these
20	meetings and help blast out the message? Is that
21	like a shared thing or are we not allowed to use her
22	from a public safety standpoint?
23	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: She's a city
2 4	employee. So, I mean, I would have ask if she would
2.5	attend those meetings. I have no problem making

- 1 that request.
- 2 COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: That would be
- 3 great.
- 4 COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Yeah. I don't see
- 5 how it could hurt.

6 CHAIRWOMAN REYES: I think this also,

7 Director, falls right into, as we noticed tonight

8 many of the issues that we're having seem to be more

9 in the senior buildings. That's not to say that the

10 residential buildings are not having problems, but

11 this scares me. These are seniors. And not only

12 that, we also have a company that is here. So to

continue hearing that these issues are arising, it's

a problem to me. Why are we paying them? Why are

they not walking floor to floor to floor? Why do I

16 get calls that there's people in the hallways

sleeping, that there's people in the stairwells

18 sleeping, and I'm sure that maintenance, when they

do their maintenance, they see it. They know

somebody has been sleeping there. They know

21 somebody has been there. I think we need to take it

a little bit more seriously. I know that we

23 discussed it briefly at our last meeting with the

company that we currently have, but if they're not

working, we shouldn't be spending our money on

nonsense. We need a company that's going to fit our needs, that's going to make sure that our seniors are safe, and I think it's very important, if not at the top of the list, because seniors, to me, come first. I think that we need to look this over and review what's happening.

with you, Chairperson, and then we've met with the security firm a couple of times. They've only been on for about two months now. We've meet with the a couple of times. We've instituted programs such as on every one of their sweeps, they're not giving us pictures of every floor to show every floor that they're on, every night. They're giving us that log every day, every night. We've met with them and I think we're starting to see a lot of change there. I have had a couple of residents just before come up to me saying how much they like what our security company is doing now. So I do think --

CHAIRWOMAN REYES: And that's in this building because I have a complaint of 220 the other night with nobody being there.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yes. And that's what we've got. And no, I can't say that if the company might have had a day where their person

got sick and they couldn't come in, et cetera, that may have happened once a week, but Frank's in touch of with them daily and they're calling him and contacting him beforehand on any scheduling issues that they may have.

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MR. MERCHAND: If I may, that was the biggest change that happened was we asked them to -we don't have cameras on every floor, and when they tell me they have this report that they're giving us that tell us hours on the ninth floor, how many on the seventh floor. It's a time scan. I said, "Well that doesn't tell me anything, because I can't see you there." So in the software they're able believe to give me a picture. So now every day I get a report for all three sites with everything that the security guard is doing, I have pictures of where the security quard is every -- at every checkpoint. So when I print that out, it's about 20 pages per night per building, and then it tells me at what time they were on the first floor, and the picture of the first floor, and what time they went to the second floor and a picture of the second floor.

Now, I have one person, and they're doing that. Could it be possible that you have somebody on the tenth floor and there's somebody on

the first floor? Yes. That is now part — the good thing about Sandra said is that it's happening after the security guard is leaving is her issue, so that is a whole 'nother topic, because then they would happen as they leave, but at least what you're telling me is that while they're here, it seems to be better.

VOICE: Yes, yes.

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MR. MERCHAND: So we will continue to work with them, and we are at the point that I think we mentioned this before, we've -- it is a second company. We really want to get this company trained properly rather than just get a third company, and we're going to have to start to again from the beginning. They have been much more responsive than the first company. Their software has allowed us to build them better. They have a system of stickers that they take a picture of that creates this log that then is tied to their phones that we get a copy of so we have it, and Emil just shorted their last paycheck by a lot of hours because then I went through every camera, 20 minutes here, 15 minutes there, they left early, whatever, we didn't pay them for that time, and now that they saw that, they're like, "Oh, my God," so they are extra on that. So

1	we are not going to let up on them and we're going
2	to continue to tighten that with them.
3	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay.
4	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I want to
5	assure you that it is taken seriously too.
6	VOICE: Barbara, can I say something?
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
8	VOICE: I had said to Mr. Recko and
9	Frank when we have the security here before, 311
10	with the booth, there was always two. The regular
11	person, right, and the arm, because a regular person
12	walking these halls, if somebody's in the hallway,
13	right, and there's one person here and they go
14	upstairs, they get beat up or whatever, and the
15	person don't come back down, no one knows that that
16	person went upstairs, the company should have two
17	people here.
18	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: We wish we could.
19	We wish we could have two or three at our site.
20	Unfortunately, our budget doesn't allow us.
21	VOICE: Oh, oh, okay.
22	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: It's difficult.
23	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: So I think
24	that overall concludes my report.
25	I would like to mention that James

1	Sanford has joined us. Commissioner Sanford. I
2	think you're with us.
3	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Yeah, he's on.
4	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay. Could we move
5	on to the resolutions?
6	COMMISSIONER SANFORD: I'm present.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Okay. Thank
8	you.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Resolution number
10	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: I just have
11	one question.
12	Can you give us I might have missed
13	it when you were doing it, but can you give us an
14	update on the RAD program as according to the
15	timeline that was originally sent out, where we're
16	at and where we should be at?
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Yeah. And I
18	think two things, there is a lot of information in
19	my report this time that I went over.
20	Second, is we are holding a special
21	Board meeting coming up on either the 23rd, the 27th
22	or 28th.
23	We're going to have our total team here
24	in person and we'll be giving you very specific,
25	where they are and what they're looking at right

Τ	now.						
2		COMMISSION	ER	IMPAST	TATO:	All	right.
3		CHAIRWOMAN	RE	EYES:	Thank	you	
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.01
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Ready? Resolution
3	No. 2023-02.01.
4	Resolution of the Housing Authority of
5	the City of Hoboken to approve the meeting minutes
6	from the for the January 12th 2023 regular Board
7	meeting.
8	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
9	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
10	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Director?
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
12	Forbes?
13	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.
14	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew
15	Impastato?
16	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
18	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.
19	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
20	Reyes?
21	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
23	Russo?
24	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.
25	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James

1	Sanford.	
2		COMMISSIONER SANFORD: No.
3		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Erica
4	Seitzman?	
5		COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Yes.
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.02
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Resolution No.
3	2023-02.02.
4	Resolution authorizing the payment of
5	the monthly list of bills for the Hoboken Housing
6	Authority.
7	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
8	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Questions?
10	Concerns?
11	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: So my only
12	question is it seems like there's a lot we're
13	spending a lot of money on also attorney fee, and,
14	you know, this is not a shot against the work
15	they're doing or anything, but, like, we're going to
16	be up to almost like \$200,000 of attorney fees spent
17	in a year, and, like, a lot of these projects always
18	seem to like, we're trying to build new
19	buildings, but in the end, like, the attorneys and
20	the consultants are the ones that make all this
21	money. And is there is that being paid for
22	through a different entity or does that fall on our
23	budget?
24	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: That
25	falls that normally falls under our operating

budget, there's no doubt about it. And I think in today's litigious society, I think it's a stitch in time saves nine argument. You know, we don't want to be in court. We don't want to be making policies that aren't legal in the most litigious state I've ever lived in. We want to make sure we're doing the right thing when we need to do it, and I think it's important as we go through these changes that we have good, solid, legal counsel, and I know it's frustrating. It's frustrating for us as well as staff, Commissioner. You know, it seems that every time we do a resolution, the attorneys have to make sure that it's correct and it's worded correctly, that it's legal, that our policies are reviewed, that we're doing things right because lawsuits are only a minute away.

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COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Is the bulk of the increase in the attorney fees due to applications and paperwork for RAD?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I don't know if it's the bulk, certainly it's increased over the last two years, there's no doubt about it, because what we're doing with the RAD program and the kind of development we're looking at doing, there's no doubt that they're consulting with us and we're

making sure we're building that foundation
correctly. There's no doubt. I don't know what the
ratio is there, Commissioner, but certainly that has
increased, certainly.

COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: My last question here. Would there be a -- if we were able to get an amount of money for RAD to speed up the program, like, do you foresee -- I don't know how to phrase this, maybe this is an off-line discussion, but is there, like, a down payment that is needed that's coming up soon to start the construction or is it a financial reason why we're not going faster than we need to be?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: No, there is not. No. There's no financial reason. We have to do this step by step. We have to have a redevelopment plan through the city. We have to. There's no moving forward. We have to have had the obsolescence study and now the application and the HUD office of special applications. We must. All of those things must be done. We have a whole crew with the Enterprise folks, ourselves, the HUD Washington folks that have all of our eyes on this, not to mention some of the current Commissioners that are pushing and saying, "Let's get this done as

1	quickly as possible," but you can only go so fast
2	down this road. Now, once we're past many of these
3	initial steps, things happen faster, but this
4	planning process has to be done. It's regulatory.
5	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: And HUD is paying
6	for our consultants.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: And HUD is
8	paying for the Enterprise Partners consultants,
9	which helps a lot, but I don't know a way that we
10	can go faster. This is done everywhere across the
11	country, this type of process, and it's maddening
12	sometimes, maddening for us as well, Commissioner,
13	that we're not done in two months. We just can't.
14	But that's not the way these projects are done.
15	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Understood.
16	Can you, if it's possible, Emil, can send a
17	breakdown of the increasing attorney fees and what
18	those relate to. I'd like to get a look at that.
19	What percentage is RAD, what percentage is
20	paperwork, whatever the case may be. If you can get
21	that, that would be helpful. No rush there. But if
22	you can find some time.
23	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: I'll see
24	what we can do for you, Commissioner.
25	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Thanks.

1	Appreciate it.	
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay. Director?	
3	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony	
4	Forbes?	
5	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes. Yes.	
6	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew	
7	Impastato?	
8	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.	
9	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Le	wit?
10	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.	
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara	
12	Reyes?	
13	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.	
14	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael	
15	Russo?	
16	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.	
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James	
18	Sanford.	
19	COMMISSIONER SANFORD: No.	
20	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Erica	
21	Seitzman?	
22	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Yes.	
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.03
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Resolution No.
3	2023-02.03.
4	A Resolution of the Housing Authority
5	of the City of Hoboken to award contract for laundry
6	room operation.
7	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
8	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Questions?
10	Concerns?
11	Call the vote, Director.
12	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Can someone
13	is there like can the Facility Subcommittee go
14	through like a little thing on what's happening
15	here?
16	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Yeah.
17	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: It would be
18	helpful if someone can give us a recap of what
19	happened here or what.
20	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: I'll give it to
21	you quickly here, Andrew. We had two bids for the
22	service. One of them was disqualified out of hand.
23	They didn't follow the RFP process. They actually
24	submitted a bid that was well above what's allowable
25	and then the other operator was the one that was

1	ranked and that's the one before us here tonight.
2	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Thank you.
3	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Director, roll call.
4	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
5	Forbes?
6	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.
7	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew
8	Impastato?
9	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
11	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.
12	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
13	Reyes?
14	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
16	Russo?
17	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.
18	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James
19	Sanford.
20	COMMISSIONER SANFORD: No.
21	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Erica
22	Seitzman?
23	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Yes.
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.04
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Resolution No.
3	2023-02.04.
4	A Resolution of the Housing Authority
5	of the City of Hoboken to award an electrical
6	services contract.
7	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
8	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
9	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Questions?
10	Concerns? Director, call the roll.
11	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
12	Forbes?
13	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.
14	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew
15	Impastato?
16	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.
17	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
18	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.
19	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
20	Reyes?
21	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
22	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
23	Russo?
24	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.
25	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James

1	Sanford.	
2		COMMISSIONER SANFORD: No.
3		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Erica
4	Seitzman?	
5		COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Yes.
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.05
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: A Resolution of the
3	Housing Authority of the City of Hoboken to extend
4	the contract for general construction services.
5	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
6	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
7	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Director?
8	Questions? Concerns?
9	Director, call the roll.
10	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
11	Forbes?
12	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.
13	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew
14	Impastato?
15	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.
16	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
17	COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.
18	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
19	Reyes?
20	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
21	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
22	Russo?
23	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.
24	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James
25	Sanford.

1		COMMISSIC	NER SANFO	RD: No.	
2		EXECUTIVE	DIRECTOR	RECKO:	Erica
3	Seitzmar	1?			
4		COMMISSIC	NER SEITZ	MAN: Ye	s.
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1	RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02.06
2	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Resolution No.
3	2023-02.06.
4	A Resolution of the Housing Authority
5	of the City of Hoboken to amend its procurement
6	policy with respect to selection of developers for
7	HUD RAD repositioning.
8	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion.
9	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
10	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Questions?
11	Concerns?
12	Director, call the roll.
13	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Who is it?
14	Did one get picked?
15	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: No.
16	COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: To start the
17	process.
18	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Correct.
19	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Okay. Director,
20	call the roll.
21	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Anthony
22	Forbes?
23	COMMISSIONER FORBES: Yes.
24	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Andrew
25	Impastato?

1		COMMISSIONER IMPASTATO: Yes.
2		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Aaron Lewit?
3		COMMISSIONER LEWIT: Yes.
4		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Barbara
5	Reyes?	
6		CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Yes.
7		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Michael
8	Russo?	
9		COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Aye.
10		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: James
11	Sanford.	
12		COMMISSIONER SANFORD: No.
13		EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECKO: Erica
14	Seitzman?	
15		COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Yes.
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1	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: That's it.
2	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Any new business?
3	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Any new business?
4	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: None here.
5	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: Motion to close.
6	COMMISSIONER RUSSO: Motion to close.
7	COMMISSIONER SEITZMAN: Second.
8	CHAIRWOMAN REYES: All in favor?
9	(Unanimous affirmative voice vote taken at
10	this time.)
11	(Concluded at 8:42 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER
2	I, THERESA L. TIERNAN, A Registered Merit
3	Reporter, Certified Stenographic Shorthand Reporter,
4	and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, do hereby
5	certify that the foregoing is a true and correct
6	transcript of the proceedings as taken stenographically
7	by and before me at the time, place and on the date
8	herein before set forth.
9	I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
10	relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any
11	of the parties to this action, and that I am neither a
12	relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel, and
13	that I am not financially interested in the action.
14	
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16	THERESA L. TIERNAN, CCR, RMR Notary Public of the State of New Jersey
17	C.C.R. License No. XI01210
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