



City of Milwaukee

P.O. Box 324
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0324

Meeting Minutes

HOUSING AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE SEARCH COMMITTEE

CHARLOTTE HAYSLETT, CHAIR

Karen Goetzler, Vice Chair

Michelle Bryant, Pstr. Willie Davis and Betty Newton

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

3:30 PM

Hillside Family Resource Center
1452 N. Seventh St., Milwaukee WI 53205

Stakeholder Forum

The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) is to foster strong, resilient and inclusive communities by providing a continuum of high-quality housing options that support self-sufficiency, good quality of life, and the opportunity to thrive.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:54 p.m.

Roll Call

Present 3 - Gotzler, Hayslett, Newton

Excused 2 - Bryant, Davis

Chair Hayslett stated that the HACM Board of Commissioners has made a commitment to a transparent and inclusive recruitment process with numerous points of input from the public through the process in the search for HACM's next Secretary-Executive Director. This Forum will assist HACM and the search firm in considering the qualities, experience and leadership style that would best serve the organization and community, and what challenges and opportunities the candidate can expect to be facing when they come on board.

Today's Stakeholder Forum is focusing on input specifically from invited political officials, so they may provide insight based on their unique expertise of the state of Milwaukee, of HACM's place within the community, and of the residents and Milwaukeeans whom HACM serves.

1. [R13653](#) Presentation from executive search firm The Organizational Leadership Edge (TOLE) of the recruitment process for the next HACM Secretary-Executive Director, including efforts to date and the role of community input through the process

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To provide relevant background about the organization to the invited guests for context as they respond to the questions in the second item on the agenda, Ken Barbeau, HACM's Interim Secretary-Executive Director, offered a brief history of the organization, and described the multiplicity of HACM's housing types and funding sources, the services available to residents through HACM and challenges both industry-wide (for example, lack of funding, aging housing stock) and specific to Milwaukee (for instance, HUD Corrective Action Plans, cash status).

Stan Quy and Joe Galvan of The Organizational Leadership Edge (TOLE) explained the process they will use as the search firm, the actions taken to date, how the rest of the process will progress, and how the input provided by the invited guests will be incorporated into the process.

2. [R13654](#) Communication between executive search firm The Organizational Leadership Edge (TOLE) and the invited guests regarding their input on the recruitment process, the characteristics, experience and qualities to be considered during the recruitment, and the challenges and opportunities facing, and goals for, the next Secretary-Executive Director

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

The firm asked the participants for their insight regarding which critical skills and attributes should be evaluated as candidates are vetted, what questions they would ask during the interviews, what goals should the next leader be prepared to address and how the search firm should engage with leaders and the public further in the process.

The attending public officials made suggestions regarding the importance of the final candidate to be a good storyteller and advocate, to prioritize residents, support their well-being, be relatable and inclusive, and for the search firm to target experience that will improve HACM's standing with HUD and foster improved communities. The attendees also encouraged further surveys and forums as the process continues.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m. with the consent of the other Committee Members in attendance.

Minutes prepared by Patricia Dee

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In the event that Common Council members who are not members of this committee attend this meeting, this meeting may also simultaneously constitute a meeting of the Common Council or any of the following committees: Community and Economic Development, Finance and Personnel, Judiciary and Legislation, Licenses, Public Safety and Health, Public Works, Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development, and/or Steering and Rules. Whether a simultaneous meeting is occurring depends on whether the presence of one or more of the Common Council member results in a quorum of the Common Council or any of the above committees, and, if there is a quorum of another committee, whether any agenda items listed above involve matters within that committee's realm of authority. In the event that a simultaneous meeting is occurring, no action other than information gathering will be taken at the simultaneous meeting.

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