



**Chicago Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners Public Session  
November 20, 2018 – Charles Hayes, Family Investment Center**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
1	George Blakemore	I am here to talk to the citizens. I am appalled to the game that is being played with government land and White developers. Citizens, Black citizens, legal citizens, vote them out. Our people are working against us for their own selfish interests. Why would Pat Dowell do this, the swap for the land? To dismantle the government housing, with a scheming for White developers to take over that land with mixed housing. When I went yesterday I was appalled, all the Blacks are moving out and Whites are moving in. It's a part of the government scheme, bringing in illegals.	Your comment has been received.  CHA works to create an inclusive community throughout the city of Chicago, in which everyone is treated with respect and as an equal, regardless of race, ethnicity or any other social identifier.
2	Paul McKinley	The new development that we have been locked out, the site on 45 <sup>th</sup> St. They had a working group with a pastor on the group. One of the people on this Board was on the group. That pastor has economically benefited, that pastor has done two fundraisers from various contractors for that 45 <sup>th</sup> site. That same pastor, has been given land, he's benefited from it with the LAC President. I had a meeting with Ms. Francine Washington about my concerns and we got into an argument, she said we have enough Section 3 down there, in other words, we don't need you down there. First of all, I am the one for Section 3, no LAC fought for it like me. This has been put in place to block us. I want to investigate also, my group was the one to get everyone a grant so that they can get into Section 3, those grants have not been given to the public. We are locked out, we are only talking about the new development, specifically on 45 <sup>th</sup> and State – it's contract steering. For 35 <sup>th</sup> and State to 36 <sup>th</sup> and State, we've been blocked from development and our group went to Washington DC to bring housing down here. We've asked Ms. Washington to excuse herself from this Board because she's acting like a buffer to make sure no grassroots people or any CHA residents be given anything on the new projects.	CHA is looking into this matter.

3	Jackie Paige	<p>I would like to say I am saddened by the events that happened yesterday. We should lean on our faith when we deal with each other. When the righteous are in place, people rejoice. People are murmuring because they feel like they're not being heard and it's hard to be positive when you feel like the decks are stacked against you. It's hard to be happy when someone is piling it and piling it, and the load becomes too heavy. When these people tell you they're not being fed, feed them, you have the authority to do this. What happened just between Paul and Francine, Francine, you say you represent more than just housing, when he came to you, you were supposed to address his issues, and not just shut him down as a CAC President and many times you have come to this Board and voted for things that you didn't believe in, because you want your money to continue.</p>	Your comment has been received.
4	Catherine Scott	<p>Why are we not teaching about all different cultures? I was at a meeting a few years ago and they were saying let's celebrate the similarities and respect the differences. If you take your heads out of the sand and talk reality, all races can get along and respect each other. You must respect everyone. If I was in the people's position that I'm serving, how would I feel if they treated me, the way I treated them. Think about it.</p>	Thank you for your comment, we agree with your sentiment.
5	Brenda Perry	<p>Hello again, on the agenda, item 17 is a closed session proposal to make a settlement with Novak Construction. I found it to be an insult to me, who suffered under Novak. They took \$19M from CHA and nothing has been completed, and I'm still suffering from their work. Why is it in a closed session, I'm speaking to it now. You don't show transparency when you go in the back room and make a deal like that, that is wrong. 400 some odd tenants at Lincoln Perry have been suffering from Novak and you're talking about giving them more money? People are watching it and you show no transparency, it has to stop. I don't want to live in a dumping ground, and that's what you're creating. Why give them more money, they stole from you. Please, don't pass it.</p>	In compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the Novak settlement matter was discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 2(c)(11), as the matter was concerning ongoing litigation.
6	Maurice Perkins	<p>I have a project that we're doing at 49<sup>th</sup> and State, I have a letter here from the Alderman that has supported our project. Ms. Pat Dowell wants to do the right thing. I'm a former resident of Ickes and I joined the army to leave Ickes. I came to your office and dropped off 16 packages. That tells my history, our project, and what you want to do. We would like your support on the project. I can make sure you get the package. We're looking for a response on this, we need the right support, and we'd like for you to review what we provided. This is going to be a legacy project, and we need all you to get on board.</p>	Thank you very much for your interest in working with CHA to develop valuable community resources for Bronzeville. CHA has reviewed your proposal and the land you have identified is currently under a development agreement with Brinshore Michaels. We encourage you to reach out to Brinshore in order to discuss any potential opportunities to collaborate on this site. Again, we thank you for your interest and commitment to the Bronzeville neighborhood.

7	Mary Baggett	<p>I have some concerns about the ABLA community. I know you have CEDA in our community working and they are supposed to be working with the heat system, but at this time, residents do not have heat, almost 40 of them. They are putting in new exhaust systems that are supposed to help the mold and the heat, but it's not helping, there's no heat. The new systems, air is coming in from the outside, and it's cold in the units. I went to a senior's unit, she's 89, she has to heat water on her stove to heat the apartment. You have your staff member who doesn't think they have to communicate with me, telling me I have to go through a third-party. I won't go through a third-party when you're in my community. You're in my development doing work, you're a part of CHA. You need to do something about this heat that's going on.</p>	<p>A heat check was conducted by property management and a contractor for entire property. This concern was closed out the same day it was reported.</p>
8	Ida Brantley	<p>I would like to thank each of you for the service you provided, Employability Plus. The Employability Plus contract ends in December, will there be a new contract for 2019? Also, we have programs in the summer at the Addams Center for our kids, and we have a special package for you today about one of the programs. ABLA is in need of your help to come together with this heating system, but mine is working perfectly. CHA, will there be a 2019 contract for Employability Plus, with Mr. Smith?</p>	<p>In regards to the Employability Plus program, the CAC oversees the program and CHA is not involved in program management.</p> <p>Concerning heating systems at ABLA, a heat check was conducted by property management and a contractor for entire property. This concern was closed out the same day it was reported.</p>
9	Blanche Winston	<p>1) I know you don't want speakers to name specific people, but I do have a concern with Francine. Is our program going to continue after December 15? The older people start coming into the classes, and the GED program is working much better this year than last. Francine has been knowing me for 50 years. I remember when she was on this side, so I wish she had an agreement to have our programs, the older people need us.</p> <p>2) Our manager over there, I have been out of a washing machine for two years, and when I come to someone about it they give me the run around. I wish you could talk to the manager about why I can't get a washer and dryer, at ABLA.</p>	<p>1) In regards to the Employability Plus program, the CAC oversees the program and CHA is not involved in program management.</p> <p>2) From our understanding, this issue has been rectified and you have received a washer and dryer.</p>

10	Michael Sullivan	<p>My concern is when you're tired, you're tired. I'm tired of seeing all these killings connected to Black folks. This is not CHA's fault, it's a community/city's fault – and also state and federal. As CHA is part federal, I want to talk about Altgeld Gardens. I bid on the contract for new development out there, the contractor that got the job is out of Rockford. I'm JOC, Section 3, MBE service disabled vet certified this contractor isn't any of it. Just yesterday, someone in Altgeld was killed, the day before that, a drive by, we have shootings. We have a CHA resident that's a sprinkler fitter and he can't get a job. I should have had that contract, and this contractor from Rockford should be picking this guy up who is a CHA resident and is in the CHA portal. There's a problem with a contractor coming into our city and taking jobs out.</p>	<p>CHA solicitations are open to the general public to bid. All awardees are subject to CHA's Section 3 and MWBE Policies. HUD regulations prohibit geographical preferences in our solicitations.</p>
11	Calvin Jackson	<p>I want to take a moment of silence for someone who has been in my life, Mr. Phillip Jackson. He said, "CHA has destroyed people who have been in this job. But it didn't destroy me, it has made me stronger and better." I pray that peace that he said be upon all of you. I want to talk about items 18 and 19. Now that you're moving into a new building, hopefully there will be some expansion as far as having Section 3 businesses have some room to work in there, because sometimes we need addresses that aren't our homes, and we need people to help us. Also, the Section 3 Business Association is now a 501(c)(3) and we are looking at working more with companies that are supposed to be working with Section 3 companies.</p>	<p>CHA has plans to include incubator space for Section 3 businesses at its new Section 3 Field Office location.</p>
12	Jerome Taylor	<p>I am the LAC President over at Minnie Riperton, and the first thing I would like to say, is I think you should give speakers more time, two minutes is not enough. Since I have a little amount of time, at Minnie Riperton we need computers, we need to fill holes. You're talking about 3919 and perception is everything. We were moved in to 3919 when they were building the Dan Ryan Expressway and people lost their homes to Eminent Domain. At that time the projects were brand new, people wanted to get in and it was tough. What I'm saying is while I was at 3919 and the fathers were in-place, we didn't have gangs, graffiti, trash, none of that. I watched them take the man out of the house, and then they started giving apartments to young girls. It was institutionalized, for those of you who have your spirits, times are changing, please, don't lose yours, do the right thing.</p>	<p>To our knowledge there are seven computers in the computer room at Minnie Riperton. If any of the computers are having technical issues, please inform the property management office.</p> <p>CHA anticipates completing construction at Minnie Riperton in January 2019. As you know, the building has been under construction for: an overhaul to plumbing systems, life safety upgrades and interior unit rehabilitations to 339 units. If there are any specific issues you have identified, please bring those matters to on-site property management for resolution.</p>

13	Mark Carter	<p>Listening to those qualifications to get back into public housing, its systematic discrimination. Going back to this whole thing where you all are doing this new construction, in particular Ogden Commons – this project is set to gentrify North Lawndale and we’re going to meet it with extreme resistance. You are giving them this public land with the movie studio, and I spoke with the owner of the studio and made it clear to him that if the community is not involved, we will do everything in our power to shut it down. I spoke with the Secretary of HUD when he came to A Safe Haven and he gave some people to speak with in Washington concerning what is going on with CHA and in Chicago. Be mindful that these people are not going to meet their Section 3 goals and we would like you to sit down with us and have an agreement, the Section 3 plan, we need to be at the table. In this election season we’re not going to stand down and watch the movie studio and Habitat use public land to gentrify us and gentrify our community.</p>	<p>All contractors must comply with CHA's Section 3 Policy.</p>
14	Omar Shareef	<p>You guys have been doing a great job with the Section 3 JOC Program, the other agencies don’t get it like you do. I understand you hear a lot of compassion from some of these guys and women about what’s going on. It’s that you’ve developed them, and they’re hungry now. They have sites in their own backyard. Then when we meet with those guys and they tell us that someone’s on your Board here telling them don’t hire non-union Section 3 JOC people, that hurts. These are your White colleagues telling us this, this is not them just making it up. This is someone you’re doing business with saying this is why we can’t do business with you. This is the passion that you hear from these guys. You can’t develop someone and then try to hinder that development. I’m saying we have to do better, I’m always telling people how great you are doing, how good the procurement team is, but we have to do better with this new development in our communities.</p>	<p>CHA is looking into this matter.</p>

15	Tamiko Holt	<p>We want a Memorandum of Understanding just like you did the PLA for the unions, we want to have it laid out about our rights, about expectations from both ends. I have a problem with us being told how much money we should be making or we can make. That's a problem. I take poverty personally. I take the process of keeping us impoverished personal. Some of us aren't trying, but some of us have been trying for years. On the 18<sup>th</sup> is my company's 8<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. I just had an opening of my office after being in business for eight years. I can't contribute me starting my business to CHA, like most in the room, from the fight that I and three others stayed on top of in order to get funding and grants and even the JOC Program. I'm done allowing people to mind-rape me, and to take credit for my work. Number three, I challenge you, that whole CAC Board, break it up, for the simple fact that we have people on that Board who are making decisions that impact the communities of Chicago, Section 8 residents and public housing residents and a lot of them don't understand what's going on around them, but they are making decisions that impact this population.</p>	<p>Your comment has been received.</p>
16	Juanita Stevenson	<p>1) Where is the response or how can I get the response to the comments I made back in August and September, I've been looking for the responses to my questions and I haven't been able to see it anywhere.</p> <p>2) I want to talk about my LAC office. We moved from the Boys and Girls Club because Lathrop is under redevelopment and we don't have any phone services or internet or fax. It's been almost three months, how much longer?</p>	<p>1) Responses to comments made at the previous Board meeting are disseminated to the general public at every Board meeting. If you would like responses to comments not from the previous Board meeting, you can request those records via the Freedom of Information Act, and you may submit a request to FOIARequest@thecha.org or:</p> <p>Attn: Nathaniel Tortora Strategic Management &amp; Partnerships Chicago Housing Authority 60 East Van Buren St., 12th Floor Chicago, IL 60605</p> <p>2) The matter has been resolved and the office has been provided with full connectivity.</p>
17	Anne Farley Gaines	<p>I am speaking on behalf of an art program brought to Jane Addams family resource center that I was in charge of last summer. The children learned a great deal and benefitted in their learning. I was funded by Employability Plus. The works need to be installed on the walls in the center.</p>	<p>In regards to the Employability Plus program, the CAC oversees the program and CHA is not involved in program management.</p>