

**CITY OF NORWALK
PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: John Kydes, Chair; John Igneri, Douglas Hempstead, Shannon O'Toole-Giandurco, Tom Livingston, Faye Bowman

STAFF: Timothy Sheehan, Redevelopment Agency Director;
Susan Sweitzer, Senior Development Project Manager;
Tami Strauss, Community Development Planning Director;
Council Member Bruce Kimmel; Reverend Dancy, S.A.V.E.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kydes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Kydes called the roll. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rev. Dancy came forward and said that he was unable to attend the main meeting for the CDBG funding requests but one of the staff members had presented a request for Serving All Vessels Equally (SAVE). He said that the State funding had been cut and he hopes that the Committee would be able to approve their funding request.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 5, 2017

**** MR. IGERNI MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2017.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

II. BUSINESS

A. DOH CDBG-DR

1. Advance DH CDBG-DR to the Common Council.
2. Authorize the Mayor to execute any and all documents associated with the DOH CDBG-DR.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED BOTH ITEMS.**

Ms. Sweitzer said that these were funds that came to the City from the State for Disaster Relief and were designated for public infrastructure for Washington Village. When the agreements have been signed, it starts a two year clock and now is the time to start the project.

Ms. Bowman said that one of her committees had been working on this and she thought it would be a great project.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- 1. ADVANCE DH CDBG-DR TO THE COMMON COUNCIL.**
- 2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DOH CDBG-DR.**

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Kimmel left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Bowman recused herself at 7:05 p.m.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM.

**** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CDBG ITEMS LISTED AS PUBLIC SERVICES:**

CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER	DIALECTICAL BEHAVIOR THERAPY	\$20,000
PERSON TO PERSON	EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	\$31,000
SATURDAY ACADEMY	CRYPTOGRAPHY	\$15,820
TRIANGLE COMM. CTR.	CASE MANAGEMENT	\$18,219
SAVE	CHECK AND CONNECT	\$16,000
HAIR TECH BEAUTY	BARBER ACADEMY	\$10,432
HIGHER ED. LIT. PROF.	COLLEGE EDGE PROGRAM	\$10,000
TOTAL ANTICIPATED AMOUNT		\$121,471

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Sheehan reminded everyone that this is just approval for the allocations to be released for public comment and then the comments will be given to the Committee before a final vote is taken to forward it to the full Council.

Ms. O'Toole-Giandurco recused herself from the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Ms. Bowman rejoined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

**** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CDBG ITEMS LISTED AS PUBLIC FACILITIES/HOUSING:**

HOMEFRONT	HOME REVITALIZATION	\$10,000
CARVER FOUNDATION	FACILITIES PROJECT	\$87,500
OPEN DOOR SHELTER	FAMILY HOUSING RENOV.	\$100,000
ROWAYTON SR. HOUSE	HEATING EFFICIENCY	\$45,000
HOUSING AUTHORITY	FREESE ADA IMPROVE.	\$24,000
REDEVELOP. AGENCY	CITY NEIGHBORHOODS	\$349,856
TOTAL ANTICIPATED AMOUNT		\$616,356

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ms. O'Toole-Giandurco rejoined the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Mr. Hempstead asked for a status update on GGP. Mr. Sheehan said that the City had not completed one of the easement agreements and there was also another item involving the circulator that had not been completed.

Mr. Hempstead requested that Corporation Counsel verify the various agreements. Mr. Sheehan made a note of this.

Ms. Strauss pointed out that the Committee still needed to vote on the funding for the CDBG Administration.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE \$200,103 FOR THE CDBG PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Advance draft AAP to Public Comment period with a contingency provision for the final allocation by HUD.
3. Approve scheduling a Public Hearing on the draft AAP during the Planning Committee meeting on March 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**** MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED BOTH ITEMS.
** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

2. **ADVANCE DRAFT AAP TO PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WITH A CONTINGENCY PROVISION FOR THE FINAL ALLOCATION BY HUD.**
3. **APPROVE SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DRAFT AAP DURING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON MARCH 2, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M.**

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Bowman said that it would be important to be strategic to look at the services that the City provides for the residents, particularly in the absence of NEON.

Mr. Kydes asked for an update on POKO. Mr. Simms said that the Citibank was in the final stages of taking control of the site and transfer the development to the bank. If the bank takes the property over, they will come into the agreement as it is and there may be requests after Citibank takes the property over

Mr. Simms joined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

**** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

Mr. Sheehan was asked to give a quick update on the Wall Street lot.

Mr. Sheehan said that the alternative parking proposed during construction would not be acceptable to the Parking Authority. This issue is being handled through Corporation Counsel. The Parking Authority made the decision to go ahead with the public hearing to get the public input. That input was sent to Corporation Counsel. Discussion followed.

Mr. Sheehan said that if the Committee would like to hear from Corporation Counsel about the status of the agreement, he could schedule something. Mr. Livingston said that he would like to get the information in advance in order to read it over. Mr. Hempstead said that there would be issues with figuring out the worth of the parcel. Mr. Sheehan said from a planning perspective, it would be better to have the entire block. The intent had always been to redevelop the entire block. Discussion followed about eminent domain and various cases in the past. Mr. Sheehan said that there had been a discussion about the City redoing the facade program but the owner refused.

Mr. Simms asked for clarification on the Emergency Assistance funding. Mr. Sheehan said that it was going out for public comment and then there will be a public hearing on March 2nd.

**** THE MOTION TO ADJOURN PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk
Planning Committee of the Common Council
Regular Meeting
February 2, 2017