

BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
February 14, 2008
ROOM 209

MEMBERS AND

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Timothy E. Wanamaker, Vice Chairman
Council President Franczyk
Council Member Kearns
Commissioner Janet Penksa
Commissioner Tobe
David Rodriguez, as acting Corporation Counsel

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Byron W. Brown, Chairman
Ms. Oehler
Council Member LoCurto

SECRETARY:

Scott C. Billman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jackie Rushton, Council Staff
Sandra Miller, OSP
Greg Bernas, OSP
Larry Tyler, OSP

Mr. Wanamaker called the meeting to order at 9:42 A.M. Commissioner Penksa made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the **January 31, 2007**, and that they are accepted; seconded by acting Corporation Counsel Rodriguez and carried unanimously.

3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Agenda Item 3a – Hertel Avenue Trash Receptacles

Submitted to agency members, for approval, is a request to enter into a contract for \$8,620 with Gleason's Nursery & Landscaping for the installation of trash receptacles along Hertel Avenue. The Hertel Avenue Business Association has worked with BURA's Office of Design & Construction and the City's Department of Public Works to design a receptacle for use on City Streets. This new design incorporates the use of a standard City tote per the request of the City sanitation crews. Hertel Avenue will act as a preliminary site for these receptacles, which DPW plans to incorporate into business districts around the City. Bids were requested from five local contractors and Gleason's was identified as the low bidder.

Council President Franczyk made the motion to approve the above item, contingent on certification of funds by the Financial Control of Agencies and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Commissioner Tobe and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 3b – Allen Street RAPP Lot

Submitted to agency members, for approval, is a request to enter into contract for \$6,200 with Miller Enterprises, Inc. for the removal of the damaged fence and installation of a new fence in the BURA owned RAPP lot on Allen Street. Bids were requested from five local contractors and Miller was identified as the low bidder.

Council President Franczyk made the motion to approve the above item, contingent on certification of funds by the Financial Control of Agencies and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Commissioner Tobe and carried unanimously.

4. OAK STREET REDEVELOPMENT/URBAN RENEWAL PLAN

No Submission

5. WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT

No Submission

6. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

No Submission

7. URBAN HOMESTEAD PROGRAM

No Submission

8. SOUTH ELLICOTT URBAN RENEWAL AREA

No Submission

9. HOME

Agenda Item 9a – St. Martin Village, SEQR Negative Declaration

Submitted to agency members, for approval, is a proposal from the Community Action Organization of Erie County, to undertake the substantial redevelopment of the vacant, former Roman Catholic Orphanage complex, located at 564 Dodge Street, in the Masten-Kingsley Neighborhood. The project involves selected building demolitions, the extensive renovation of two existing buildings and an old Chapel, and the construction of six new buildings to provide 60 housing units and a community facility. HOME funds, provided by the City, will be used to partially finance the project. Prior to the implementation of the above action, the

requirements of the N.Y. State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) must be satisfied. The project is an “Unlisted Action” for which BURA has completed a coordinated environmental assessment. It is submitted, in accordance with Section 617.7 of the regulations, that the impacts resulting from the proposed action will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Commissioner Tobe made the motion to accept the above item, seconded by Council President Franczyk and carried unanimously.

10. HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)

No Submission

11. EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT

No Submission

12. OTHER

Agenda Item 12a – East Utica Library – Property Disposition/Rehabilitation, SEQR Lead Agency Designation

Submitted to Agency Member, for approval, is a proposal from Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation (BERC), to convert the vacant former library building, located at 334 East Utica Street, into business incubator space. The project involves the transfer of property ownership through purchase from the City of Buffalo to BERC, the extensive renovation of the building under management by BERC, into business incubator space for professional service businesses serving Buffalo’s East Side. CDBG funds, provided by the City, will be used to partially finance the project. Prior to the implementation of the above action, the requirements of the N.Y. State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) must be satisfied. The project is an “Unlisted Action” for which the completion of a coordinated environmental assessment is recommended. In accordance with Section 617.6 of the regulations, an agency responsible for determining the effect of the project on the environment must be designated from among the involved agencies.

Council President Franczyk made the motion to accept the above item, seconded by Commissioner Tobe and carried unanimously.

13. CONSENT ITEM

No Submission

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14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Acting Corporation Counsel Rodriguez made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Tobe and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at **9:30 a.m., February 28, 2008**, in Room 209 City Hall, Buffalo, New York.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott C. Billman
Secretary

Reported by:
Tracy A. Lasker