

BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
September 25, 2008
ROOM 209

MEMBERS AND

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mayor Brown, Chairman
Alisa Lukasiewicz, Corporation Counsel
Council Member LoCurto
Council President Franczyk
Commissioner Reilly
Commissioner Penksa
Virginia Oehler
Andrew Eszak

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Council Member Kearns

SECRETARY:

Scott C. Billman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bryan Cacciotti, Homefront, Inc.
Carla Kosmerl, OSP
Darryl McPherson, Division of Audit

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m. Corporation Council Lukasiewicz made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the **September 11, 2008** meeting, and that they are accepted; seconded by Council Member LoCurto and carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Agenda Item 3a – Delaware Public Improvements – Street/Sidewalk Replacements CDBG Funds not to exceed \$70,016.85

Submitted to Agency members for approval, is a request to fund public improvements in the Delaware District. CDBG funds not to exceed \$70,016.85 will reimburse City account #30032106-445100. The funds will be used to resurface Tacoma Street (north side) from Delaware to Virgil and West Ferry Street (south side) from Main to Linwood Avenue. In addition, the funds will be used for sidewalk improvements on Homer Street from Hertel to Tacoma Street and West Ferry (south side) from Delaware to Linwood Avenue. The work was bid and will be managed by the Department of Public Works.

Council Member LoCurto made the motion to approve the item contingent on certification of funds by the Agency's Office of Administration and Finance and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Council President Franczyk and carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 3b – HomeFront Inc., Administrative Contract

Submitted to Agency members for approval, is a request for administrative costs pertaining to the operation of Buffalo's Home Ownership Center in the amount of \$163,000.00. The goal of this program is to increase the City's home ownership rate, especially among low to moderate-income household. HomeFront will realize this goal by providing comprehensive home ownership education, counseling and financial assistance programs. Additionally, funding is being provided for the services of Reconstruction Analyst to provide specifications, inspection and cost estimates for the Community Development Housing Organization program.

Bryan Cacciotti, Homefront, Inc. stated that many homeowners have been seeking help from Homefront and their services offered.

Ms. Oehler expressed concern for the homeowner's who have been moving out of their homes before the bank foreclosed on the home. Mr. Cacciotti stated this is one issue they have addressed and are presently trying to resolve.

Mr. Eszak made the motion to approve the item contingent on certification of funds by the Agency's Office of Administration and Finance and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Commissioner Reilly and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item 12a – Funding Agreement with City of Buffalo to Obtain Funding for McCarthy Park Improvements

Submitted to Agency members for approval, is a request to approve BURA entering into a Funding Agreement with the City of Buffalo (through the Department of Public Works) where the City will provide \$80,000.00 to fund improvements to McCarthy Park as described in the draft Funding Agreement provided by Agency Counsel to the members.

The Agency is also requested to approve BURA entering into a subsequent Grant Agreement with Medaille College of Buffalo, New York (Medaille) to provide this funding in the form of a grant to Medaille to assist it in completion of the improvements under Medaille's administration of the project.

Commissioner Reilly made the motion to approve the item contingent on certification of funds by the Agency's Office of Administration and Finance and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Council Member LoCurto and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, Alisa Lukasiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Eszak and carried unanimously.

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at **9:30 a.m., September 25, 2008**, in Room 209 City Hall, Buffalo, New York.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott C. Billman
Secretary

Reported by:
Tracy A. Lasker