

**BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY**  
**October 22, 2009**  
**ROOM 209**

**MEMBERS AND**

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Byron Brown  
Andrew Eszak  
Council President Franczyk  
Commissioner Penksa  
Commissioner Reilly  
David Rodriguez, Corporation Counsel  
Council Member Kearns  
Council Member LoCurto  
Dominic Bonifacio

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**SECRETARY:**

Scott C. Billman

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Brian Pilarski, Seneca-Babcock Community Assoc.  
Marilyn Gallivan, Marine Drive Apartments  
Jim Folan, Contract Administration  
Lucy Candelario, West Side Community Center  
John Gillig, Concerned Ecumenical Ministries  
Julia Paul, Council Staff  
Karen Privateer, Council Staff  
Michael Tritto, Schiller Park Community Services  
Scott Gehl, HOME  
Darryl McPherson, Division of Audit  
Carla Kosmerl, BURA  
Alan Tober, Contract Administration

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 9:35a.m. Commissioner Penksa made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes for the **October 8, 2009** meeting, and that they are accepted as amended; seconded by Andrew Eszak and carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

**Agenda Item 3a – Back to Basics Substance Abuse Program**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request for authorization to contract with Back to Basics Outreach Ministries, Inc., for \$30,573 to operate a substance abuse program providing such services as employment training and job search, transitional housing, pantry services and transportation to facilities for citizens in the City of Buffalo. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010. There is no construction or renovation involved with project.

**Corporation Counsel Rodriguez 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 Mr. Bonifacio and carried unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 3b – Concerned Ecumenical Ministry**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request for authorization to contract with Concerned Ecumenical Ministry for \$36,567 to fund a senior activities program on the City's West Side. Social, educational and recreational activities are planned. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**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 Commissioner Reilly and carried unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 3c – Housing Opportunities Made Equal**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) for \$75,573 to provide comprehensive services to victim of housing bias, services to include paralegal counseling, technical assistance to government and not-for-profit service providers, community education and fair housing. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**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 Council Member Kearns and carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Brown announced that Agenda Items 3d and 3e would be reviewed together.**

### **Agenda Item 3d – Seneca Babcock Community Association**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with Seneca Babcock for \$26,396 to provide a variety of services for the elderly residents. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

### **Agenda Item 3e – Seneca Babcock Community Association – Youth**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with Seneca Babcock for \$26,396 to provide social, educational, recreational and physical activities for the youth in the City of Buffalo. This contract will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**Council President Franczyk made the motion to approve items 3d and 3e contingent on certification of funds by the Agency's Office of Administration and Finance and Agency Counsel approval of all Agreements; seconded by Mr. Bonifacio and carried unanimously.**

**Agenda Item 3f – Schiller Park Community Services, Inc.**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with Schiller Park Community Services for \$102,573 to provide senior activities and related programs to seniors in the City of Buffalo. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**Commissioner Penksa 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.**

**Agenda Item 3g – CDBG-R Grant American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval is the Substantial Amendment to the City's 2008-2009 Annual Action Plan to receive CDBG-R Grant funds allocated under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 as follows:

Activity	Dollar Amount
Housing rehabs - includes a new Warm & Dry Program – emergency assistance for major deficiencies, including roof repair and energy-efficient furnace replacements	\$1,355,345
Street/sidewalk improvements – citywide	\$1,000,000
Emergency demolitions of deteriorated vacant housing (per the request of HUD, three energy conservation projects originally in this budget were transferred to the annual CDBG program budget in a dollar for dollar exchange with this activity)	\$525,000
Jobs Training Program to provide training to eligible low to moderate persons in the construction/rehab industry	\$531,149
Street/sidewalk improvements in the NRSA to complete our housing plan for this area	\$500,000
General Administration @ 10% of grant	\$400,000
Total CDBG Stimulus Funds Available	\$4,311,494

**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.**

**Mayor Brown stated that Agenda Items 3h and 3i would be reviewed together.**

**Agenda Item 3h – West Side Community Services – Youth**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with West Side Community Services for \$100,573 to fund a youth program on the West Side of Buffalo. Services include recreation, enrichment, outreach and community education and support services. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**Agenda Item 3i – West Side Community Services – Senior**

Submitted to Agency Members for approval, is a request to contract with West Side Community Services for \$100,573 to fund a senior citizens program. Services include recreation, enrichment, outreach and community education and support services. This program will operate from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010.

**Mr. Eszak made the motion to approve Item 3h and 3i 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. The motion passed with eight Board Members in favor and one abstention made by Mr. Bonifacio due to conflict of interest.**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at **9:30 a.m., November 5, 2009**, in Room 209 City Hall, Buffalo, New York.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Scott C. Billman  
Secretary**

**Reported by:  
Tracy A. Lasker**