

**CITY OF BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: December 16, 2010 Meeting

MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT: Mayor Byron Brown
Council President Franczyk
Council Member Kearns
David Rodriguez, Esq., Acting Corporation Counsel
Commissioner Penksa
Dominic Bonifacio
Council Member LoCurto

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brendan Mehaffy, Esq. Executive Director OSP

SECRETARY: Scott C. Billman, Esq.

OTHERS PRESENT: Yvonne McCray, OSP/BURA
Darryl McPherson, Audit
Oswaldo Mestre, Citizen Services
Whitney Kemp, Citizen Services
Jim Folan, Contract Compliance
Joyelle Tedeschi, Code Blue
Sarah Pollinger, Buffalo City Mission
Stuart Harper, Buffalo City Mission
Angela White, COB/BURA
Dale Ziklewski, Homeless Alliance

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. Mr. Rodriguez made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes for the **December 16, 2010** meeting, and that they are accepted; seconded by Council Member LoCurto and carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Agenda Item 3a.

Mayor's Livable Communities' Grant Initiative – City Wide

The purpose of the Mayor's Livable Communities Grant Program is to provide funds, not to exceed \$51,590, to block clubs/community organizations for the development and implementation of neighborhood beautification and improvement projects. All program applicants/activities will be required to meet a low/mod area benefit and to conform to all other regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency (BURA). Block clubs will compete for funds based on the

completion of an application, which will be reviewed for eligibility under CDBG rules and program guidelines. Citizen Services and OSP staff will review the applications and grade them on a pre-existing scale. Funds are awarded based on scores. Prior to issuing contracts for funding, each specific project description will be forwarded to the Asst. Environmental Program Coordinator to complete all applicable state and federal environmental review activities.

Mr. Bonifacio made the motion to approve this 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 3b.

Mayor's Livable Communities' Grant Initiative - Mid-City National Research Service Award Area

The purpose of the Mayor's Livable Communities Grant Program is to provide funds, not to exceed \$70,016, to block clubs/community organizations for the development and implementation of neighborhood beautification and improvement projects. All program applicants/activities will be required to meet a low/mod area benefit and to conform to all other regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency (BURA). Block clubs will compete for funds based on the completion of an application, which will be reviewed for eligibility under CDBG rules and program guidelines. Citizen Services and OSP staff will review the applications and grade them on a pre-existing scale. Funds are awarded based on scores. Prior to issuing contracts for funding, each specific project description will be forwarded to the Asst. Environmental Program Coordinator to complete all applicable state and federal environmental review activities. These funds must be utilized within the Mid-City National Research Service Award area.

Council Member Kearns made the motion to approve this 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

EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT

Agenda Item 11a

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) American Red Cross

The City of Buffalo has been awarded \$6,594,081 in federal stimulus funds for the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing program (HPRP). The Buffalo Housing Opportunities Program (BHOP) provides "temporary financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance." On November 18, 2010 funding was

approved for agencies providing Case Management, Utility Shut-Off Prevention Assistance, Detailed Benefits Analysis Services, Eviction Assistance and Housing Relocation services. This is the second year of a three year program. Approval is being sought for a budget revision in the amount of \$1,750,000 for the Red Cross. The Red Cross performs fiscal agency services and compliance monitoring for the BHOP program providing the actual monetary assistance deemed necessary for each program participant based upon eligibility.

Mr. Rodriguez made the motion to approve this 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 11b

Code Blue is a pro-active cold weather emergency plan for opening a warming shelter for homeless individuals on extremely cold nights when temperatures dip below 10° F (or 0° F with the wind chill). The Code Blue Program and cold weather emergency plan were developed by the Western New York Coalition for the Homeless, a coalition of service providers working primarily with individuals and families facing homeless or who are homeless. The Buffalo City Mission will serve as host and administrator of the Code Blue Program for 2010-2011. The WNY Coalition for the Homeless members and volunteers provide service evaluations to individuals and families accessing Code Blue. Volunteers conduct outreach activities on these nights to locations where chronically homeless are found and provide transportation to the warming center for those willing to go for the night. Approval is being sought to provide \$55,012, in federal Emergency Shelter Grant funding to the Buffalo City Mission for the operation of the Code Blue Program.

Mr. Bonifacio made the motion to approve this 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.

OTHER

Agenda Item 12

Walden Park Housing Improvements, SEQR Lead

Walden Park Senior Housing II, LLC proposes to undertake extensive renovations to the facility at 101 Bakos Blvd. in the City's Schiller Park Planning Neighborhood. The City proposes to financially assist the project with HUD HOME funds. Prior to implementation of this project, the requirements of N.Y. State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) must be satisfied. The environmental assessment form was given to the Board Members.

Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency
Meeting of December 16, 2010

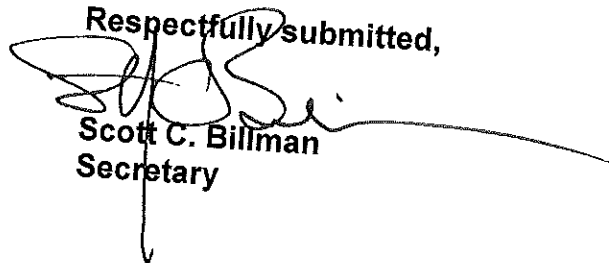
Council President Franczyk made the motion to approve this item; seconded by Mr. Rodriguez carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, Council President Franczyk made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Penksa and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m., December 30, 2010, Room 209 City Hall, Buffalo, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott C. Billman
Secretary

Reported by:
Risë Geller-Alongi