

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Draffkorn called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

**ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE**

*Members Present:* Sue Draffkorn (Chairman), Yvonne Barnes, Randy Donley, Barbara Wheeler, Carol Louise, Phil Bartman, Mark Ruda, Robert Pierce, Lowell Cutsforth, Rosemary Kurtz and Stanley Duda,

*Members Absent:* Scott Breeden, Tina Hill, Robert Miller, Robert Martens, Kim Larson and Craig Hubert

*Staff Present:* John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Maryanne Wanaski, Deputy Director/Principal Planner; Jean Niemann, Community Development Coordinator; Faith Taylor, IDIS Coordinator and Pat Melone, CDBG Administrative Specialist

Commissioner Pierce called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Bartman made a motion seconded by Ms. Louise to approve minutes from June 24, July 22, August 26, August 27 and August 28, 2009. Chairman Draffkorn asked if there were any changes or corrections, - there were none. The minutes were approved with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Review of Commissioners' Report for August, 2009* –Ms. Taylor said there was no activity in the HOME projects. She reviewed CDBG and NSP activity. While reviewing the summary she said our drawdown ratio is 1.3%, but when HUD does the new assessment in November that will increase to approximately 2.0% because they will be adding the new grant program year. The last page is HPRP (Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program) and CDBG-R (Community Development Block Grant-Recovery). Both are stimulus programs and will last 2 – 3 years. Subrecipients we will be contracting with are listed. No contracts have yet been created.

Chairman Draffkorn asked for an update on the “new hire.” Ms. Wanaski said she and Mr. Hansel interviewed 8 – 10 people. There is a young lady who has been working for the City of Chicago, Department of Housing on their Grant Programs and is very familiar with housing issues. Ms. Wanaski would like to make her an offer tomorrow and hopefully she will accept.

*2010 Annual Action Plan* – Ms. Niemann said she is currently working on the details and finalizing a draft of the plan. She has made an Executive Summary, which gives the projects at a glance and passed out copies to Commissioners. The plan is to include this and other information requested by HUD. When completed a public notice will be put in the newspaper referring people to Libraries, the County website or to come into the office to review a copy of the plan during the month of October (for 30 days), as required by HUD.

*Five Year Consolidated Plan* – Ms. Niemann said Commissioners had received a draft copy of this last month and again we will be adding an Executive Summary which will be made part of the document as required by HUD. We also need to make some changes to the tables to more correctly identify which of the shelters was more oriented towards the homeless. After adjustments this will also be put on public review for 30 days.

Both the 2010 Annual Action Plan and the Five Year Consolidated Plan will then go to the November 3<sup>rd</sup> County Board Meeting and must be approved so that the documents can be delivered to HUD on November 15<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that we will need to go to P&D Committee in order for them to approve the final draft.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **MEMBERS' COMMENTS, MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Taylor referred to funding decisions in our last meeting. She said the Habitat for Humanity project, A Brush With Kindness was preliminarily approved subject to answers on the landscaping. She confirmed the landscaping can be used as "match." This was confirmed by our HUD Representative

Ms. Kurtz asked about the RTA Tax (approximately 9 million dollars that is coming into the County) and asked for elaboration. Mr. Labaj said he will obtain more information for Commissioners' review next month.

Ms. Niemann referred to an item discussed in previous meetings on Youth Service Bureau - Flooring. At that time they showed on their quarterly report (due to State funding cuts) they were not able to go ahead with the project. She has contacted them again and with more information they now feel they can go ahead with the project. She has put together an amendment to their contract so that they can accomplish this.

Ms. Niemann then referred to a letter received on PADS letterhead (PADS is now a division of Pioneer) signed by Lorraine Kopczynski thanking Commissioners for the 2010 grant awards. She then passed the letter around to the Commission.

Another letter was received from Hospice of Northeastern Illinois and they are reporting the news that they recently received a \$million gift to the *Building A Legacy of Care: The Time is Now* capital campaign. This letter was passed around to the Commission to see.

Ms. Wanaski expressed her thanks to the Commission for the time and effort expended by the Commission last month. Ms. Draffkorn expressed her thanks to all who were involved. Mr. Pierce thanked the staff for their time and efforts.

There was an in depth discussion by Commissioners on possible changes to the voting approach for future funding rounds. Ms. Niemann made suggestions on possible changes in presentation of information.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Louise made a motion seconded by Mr. Bartman to adjourn at 8:48 a.m. Chairman Draffkorn declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.