

APPROVED ON DECEMBER 10, 2009

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

MAY 14, 2009

PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL

7:00 P.M.

Present: Chairperson Nancy Emerson, Bob Layton, Algene Bailey, Constance Carmody, Lynne Langley
Absent: Vice Chairperson Dani Rooney (called), William Thorpe, Jean Pecunies (called)
Staff: David Moore, Assistant Community Development Director

Chairperson Emerson opened the meeting and moved to the first item on the agenda, which was consideration of the minutes from April 23, 2009. Mr. Layton moved that the minutes be accepted as presented and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Chairperson Emerson then recognized Mr. Moore, who indicated that additional information from HUD had come forward in the last week, which impacts the City's draft FY 2009-2010 budget. The additional information included the final CDBG entitlement grant amount; the final rule for the use of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding; and new contractual obligations that affect salaries and benefits.

Mr. Moore reported that the entitlement grant for FY 2009-2010 would be \$655,821, which was \$9,015 greater than was assumed during the budget process. He provided a new draft budget to the Committee and recommended that due to the increase in the entitlement funds available, \$2,000 be allocated towards the Public Service Agency Grant program and the other funding be added to other line items. He indicated that budget figures for multiple line items were impacted by the updated information, however no projects or programs were added or removed. The new draft budget also showed a line item for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds of 2009. He said HUD issued the guidance on May 4th, and a substantial amendment to the FY 2008-2009 CDBG Annual Plan and Budget would need to be adopted by the City and approved by HUD in order to use the funding. He said, based on the guidance in the HUD notice for the ARRA funding, that staff recommends the funding be used for the Raleigh Way Streetscape Improvement Project – Phases II and III. He indicated that the ARRA funding would insure that both remaining phases could be completed. He also indicated that the new draft budget increased the amount budgeted for the Atlantic Heights Streetscape Engineering and Design.

Mr. Moore indicated that he would be in touch in the next week with the Committee to schedule a public hearing on the ARRA funding so that the amendment could be completed prior to June 5, 2009 as required by HUD. Mr. Moore also indicated that an additional \$2,000 was available for allocation to the Public Service Agency Grant recipients and provided a handout on the current grant awards.

Chairperson Emerson then invited discussion by the Committee members. The Committee expressed its satisfaction that the additional information had come forward from HUD so that the budget could be finalized and was pleased that additional funding was available in general for the CDBG program. Committee members discussed the appropriateness of the Raleigh Way Streetscape Improvement project as an ARRA-funded project because it would support economic activity including employment and infrastructure improvements, which is in keeping with the national priorities for the ARRA funds. A general discussion took place regarding the Atlantic Heights Streetscape Engineering and Design project and how the current budget would permit both Concord and Porpoise Ways to be the subjects of the next engineering and design project.

Chairperson Emerson then suggested the Committee award the additional \$2,000 in Public Service Agency Grants funds. The Committee reviewed the previous grant award list provided by Mr. Moore and indicated that an additional \$1,500 to Cross Roads House would bring that agency's award equal to its FY 2008-2009 grant award. In awarding the additional \$500 the committee reviewed which agencies had requested more funding than they received for the FY 2009-2010 grant year. Of those agencies, the Committee discussed awarding the additional funding to AIDS Response Seacoast and cited the decrease in federal and state funding that agency has experienced over the past few years. Ms. Langley moved to allocate \$1,500 to Cross Roads House and \$500 in additional funding for AIDS Response Seacoast. The total grants for these agencies would then include \$10,000 for Cross Roads House and \$10,500 for AIDS Response Seacoast. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Mr. Layton moved that the FY 2009-2010 Draft Annual Plan and Budget be recommended to the City Manager. Ms. Langley seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.