

Land Bank Commission Minutes

December 21, 2011

MEETING DATE: December 21, 2011 (Regular Meeting)

The meeting was called to order by Andy Francis at 11:45 a.m. in the Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center.

COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

Commissioner Michael Robinson
Commissioner Susan Chan
Commissioner Grace Blagdon

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Andrew Francis
Commissioner Willis Smith
Commissioner Hillis Schild
Commissioner Odessa Darrrough
Commissioner Arlen Jones
Commissioner Corey Thomas
Commissioner Keith Wingfield
Commissioner Brad Walker

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

Andre Bernard, Director of Housing
Brittany Jefferson, Redevelopment Administrator
Amy Fields, Deputy City Attorney

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Quorum

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes it was seconded. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS –

Financial Report- General Fund (1): is \$703.55; Metropolitan Bank Account: \$3,801.30; General fund (2): \$18,279.17; and, CDBG: \$41,587.60.

Property Inventory- The Land bank program has fifty-six (56) properties in inventory, plus the 92 lots of the Rolling Pines Subdivision. Ten (10) properties are available for transfer and have title insurance. Five (5) properties have been transferred for development. Staff stated that 2423 W. 17th and 1701 Dennison are demolition ineligible due to historic significance. Commissioner Francis re-emphasized the need to use City funds in 2012 for acquisitions.

City lien foreclosure report- Six (6) properties have been acquired through City Lien Foreclosure. Order of Foreclosure granted on 2318 Wright Avenue on December 7, 2011. The Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 13, 2011. Discussion regarding raising an issue on appeal and noticing proper parties. Commissioner Francis made a second request for a copy of the 2011 City Liens filed within the Land Bank Focus Area.

Quiet Title - Discussion about the requirement of quiet title actions for properties acquired through the Arkansas State Land Commissioner's Auction. Staff will be submitting the file for 1701 Dennison to the City Attorney's Office for quiet title. Commissioner Wingfield requested an update on quiet title actions for

Land Bank inventory from the City Attorney's Office.

Purchase Property- Title updates have been requested on the three (3) purchases pending with Little Rock Homes, LLC.

Donation Property- Two (2) properties have recently been approved by the Board for donation: 3504 Martin Luther King and 3205 W. 23rd Street; Two (2) additional properties are being processed for donation.

NSP2 Report:

- The NSP2 Consortium members have 40 units that are in the construction phase-rehabs and new constructions. We have expended **\$4,203,131.00** as of December 19, 2011. We have a \$7.7 million of our funds obligated towards spending the 8.6 million dollars. The NSP2 Little Rock Consortium has less than \$98,000 left to reach the 50% expenditure goal.
- There will be a Press Event before the Board of Directors for reaching the NSP2 50% Goal in January.
- Discussion regarding benefits of "Green Building" and the availability of NSP2 floor plans for Land Bank Program applicants.
- The Commission would like to track the two (2) Land Bank properties transferred to Habitat for Humanity for NSP2 Development.
- The Commission will schedule a tour of the NSP2 focus area during the 1st quarter of 2012.

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT-

Discussion regarding strategies for **Land Bank 2012 Goals**, which include Acquisitions, Quiet Titles, Partnerships, Comprehensive Map and Focus Zone Analysis, Land Transfer Checklist, Land Bank Programs, and Website Enhancements.

OLD BUSINESS-

The contract for title services was finalized November 21, 2011.

The Priorities and Policies Revisions will be submitted for Board consideration in January 2012.

NEW BUSINESS-

The Land Bank 2012 Meeting Schedule was presented and approved by the Commission.

Five (5) Land Bank Commissioner positions will be available in March 2012. Staff requested that Commissioners seeking reappointment forward a letter to Mayor and Board for consideration.

The Land Bank Property Program for City of Little Rock and Little Rock School District Employees was passed by the Board of Directors on December 20, 2011. Staff will make the program guidelines available on the website. Once all program challenges are assessed, Staff will do a segment on the Access Channel to raise awareness to the program.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Adjourn