

Land Bank Commission Minutes
March 17, 2010

MEETING DATE: March 17, 2010 (Regular Meeting)

The meeting was called to order by the **Chair Grace Blagdon** at 11:30 a.m. at City Hall in the Board Room.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Grace Blagdon, Chair
Commissioner Arlen Jones
Commissioner Susan Chan
Commissioner Willis Smith
Commissioner Keith Wingfield
Commissioner Hillis Schild
Commissioner Michael Robinson

COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

Commissioner Andrew Francis
Commissioner Brad Walker

STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS

Andre Bernard, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Programs
Ward Hanna, Assistant Director of Housing and Neighborhood Programs
Tasha Smith, Administrative Assistant
Brittany Jefferson, Redevelopment Administrator
Director Hendrix, Board of Directors
Director Adcock, Board of Directors

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

COMMISSIONER KEITH WINGFIELD made a motion to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by **COMMISSIONER MICHAEL ROBINSON**. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS –

BRITTANY JEFFERSON is the new Redevelopment Administrator. Ms. Jefferson reported that 1021 S. Woodrow has received a complaint on March 8th. The other three files listed will be prepared by Ms. Jefferson and will be submitted to City Attorney's office. Donation letter will be sent out by April. **COMMISSIONER CHAN** asked how much are the city liens? Ms. Jefferson stated that liens typically cost one hundred dollars. **COMMISSIONER WINGFIELD** asked if the liens that weren't correctly done are they corrected now with Code Enforcement or are some of these going to return. **HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS DIRECTOR, ANDRE BERNARD** stated the only thing that was flawed were notifying lien holders, staff have put in place new procedures. He stated there is nothing stopping the City of Little Rock certifying the liens through the Pulaski County tax collector.

Ms. Jefferson stated that the General fund account for Land Bank is thirty-eight thousand dollars, Metropolitan account has nine thousand and seven hundred dollars and CDBG account has Two hundred thousand dollars.

Andre Bernard stated the focus area for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) would be census tract ten and eleven which encompass the eastern of Martin Luther King heading west to Woodrow and the western boundary would be Elm st. which is bound by Charles Bussey and I-630. According to the agreement the City of Little Rock have with HUD we will have to revitalize a minimum of one hundred units. The deadline to have consortium agreement signed is April 10th. There will be someone hired as Program Grant Coordinator. Commissioner Blagdon where can citizens find the information regarding NSP2? Mr. Bernard stated there is information on the City of Little Rock website. If they have any questions you can contact staff at 501-371-6825.

Inventory for Land Bank remains the same as previous. The Phase 1 Environmental for 2209 w. 10th has spent two thousand dollars. Mr. Bernard stated the staff is looking for RFQ to try to get a low and consistent price. **COMMISSIONER SCHILD** mentions it may be easier if we pick a specific area. **COMMISSIONER CHAN** feels like their have to be less expensive way. She would like to ask for guidance from companies that perform this type of work. Commissioner Wingfield stated he would like to see Phase 1 completed.

Discussion was held on the Phase 1 Environmental.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

Legal and Political Affairs

No Report

Administration and Operations

Commissioner Robinson submitted an Administrations and Operations report.

Marketing and Development

All Committees were present.

OLD BUSINESS-

NUSA- Ward Hanna stated the committee did meet. The committee will help Ward put together a presentation. He stated you can visit www.littlerock.org or www.nusa.org for registration or look to view the NUSA book. HUD will be providing workshops. May 26 is the mayor's reception and NUSA is celebrating its thirty-fifth anniversary. If you anyone would like to volunteer to work at NUSA please contact Dwight Pridgeon, Pat Gee or Kathleen Countryman. You can also email **DIRECTOR JOAN ADCOCK** at djadcock@comcast.net.

COMMISSIONER WINGFIELD made a motion postpone the resolution that Commissioner Francis proposed and it was seconded by **COMMISSIONER SCHILD**. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS-

The Land Bank Commission felt like it was not their responsibility on the make up of the diversity of the commission.

Discussion held on the increase size on the Land Bank Commission.

Commissioner Wingfield moved to table applications to next commission meeting.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Citizen Loretta Hendrix asked if the sub-committee is an open forum. She would propose to have a communication forum.

Citizen Robert Walker stated there is a double wide seating on a lot, he also suggested putting solar panels on houses.

Citizen Annie Abrams is the concept was representative governance. She asks was there any consideration for the representative concept followed. Everyone has participatory democracy; the Land Bank Commission sub-committee is not represented with diversity.

Citizen Cheryl Warden stated if citizens would attend the meetings they would be more informed.

Adjourn