Land Bank Commission Minutes

MEETING DATE:   March 16, 2016 (Regular Meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. at the Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center by Commissioner Hillis Schild.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:  Commission Odessa Darrough
                          Commissioner Andrew Francis

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:  Commissioner Susan Chan
                         Commissioner Willis Smith
                         Commissioner Hillis Schild
                         Commissioner Francis Frazier
                         Commissioner Hollie Hutchinson
                         Commissioner Crystal Mercer
                         Commissioner Leta Antony
                         Commissioner Grace Blagdon

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF
Victor Turner and Kevin Howard

DECLARATION OF QUORUM
Quorum Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
No minutes

Prior to reports, Ms. Schild suggested that an interim chair be elected to manage the meetings until replacement commissioners are approved and new officers elected, which include Chair and Vice Chair.

STAFF REPORTS

Finance Report:  Staff provided updated balances of the General Fund ($167,218.42) and CDBG accounts ($85,555.82) respectively.

Property Inventory:  Ms. Anthony asked what percentage of the inventory were vacant lots.  Ms. Schild estimated approximately 95% were vacant lots.  Ms. Anthony also commented on what the role of the Landbank Commission in addressing the homeless issue in Little Rock.  Ms. Schild described the function of the Landbank and explained how the Landbank could transfer property to homeless service providers and how nonprofits are prioritized in the disposal of Landbank properties.  Ms. Schild gave a summary of how entities interested in acquiring properties from the Landbank can access those properties.

Kevin Howard updated the Commission regarding an Offer to Purchase property at 1521 South Maple at the list price.  The property was developed with NSP2 funds.

Quiet Title Update:  Title work completed for property located at 3023 West 11th.

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT
No Committee Report

OLD BUSINESS
Title work was ordered on 804 South Washington.
NEW BUSINESS

Staff updated commission on terms of the Commissioners. Ms. Schild inquired on CHAB representation on the Landbank and updated Commission on folks that have expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Ms. Schild also discussed the areas of expertise required by the Commission and which Commissioners currently meet those requirements. In addition, Ms. Schild discussed persons she has visited with regarding an interest in serving as Commission members on the Landbank.

Victor Turner discussed 1520 South Oak and 1515 South Pine being offered as donations by Mr. Mike Ashcraft. A discussion ensued about properties being in the focus area or focus zone. Victor mentioned that a gentleman from California wants to donate 4324 West 14th, which is on the corner of Peyton and 14th. This particular property was discussed and the process the Landbank uses to check the viability of accepting properties. Staff was to check if any code violations existed on the property at 4324 West 14th.

Ms. Schild entertained a motion to have staff get title work for 1520 South Oak and 1515 South Pine. Mr. Willis Smith made a motion to get title work on 1520 South Oak and 1515 South Pine with a second by Ms. Susan Chan. Mr. Willis Smith stated he would look at 4324 West 14th Street.

Ms. Schild re-emphasized to Commissioners to send her an email if they have an interest in serving as interim chair and she would pass the names on to Andre Bernard.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS
None

ADJOURN