



**TOWN OF
HAMDEN**
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

MINUTES: The Community Development Citizens Advisory Commission held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 in the Lounge at Keefe Community Center, 11 Pine Street, Hamden. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Terre Daniels, Joyce Blandon, Peter Curtis, Lee Campo, Anthony Brown, Michael McGarry, Michael Brooks

Commissioners Absent: Joyce Lyon, Kurt Bauknecht

Others in Attendance: Chris Marchand, Community Development Director
Gerry Tobin, Acting Clerk

Call to Order

Mr. Campo called the meeting to order at 5:35

Minutes:

There were no minutes to approve.

Manager Report

Mr. Marchand announced that the most important task tonight is vote on the PSA awards. The decision then goes to the Legislative Council for approval and then on to HUD.

Mr. Marchand distributed a copy of his report. The Department is trying to finish up two rehab projects. Work is continuing at 40 Savoy. The grocery store at 863 Dixwell Avenue is an ideal opportunity for revitalization of the commercial strip. The owner moved a grocery store from next to Chazmo's up the block to Dudley Street next to the hair braiding salon. A nice storefront is being funded. The low bid was \$12,750. He would like to do some before and after pictures.

There are several projects on hold and nothing to discuss at this time.

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There has been one project completed this month.

There are 16 projects on the waiting list for rehab, and this list would be exhausted by the spring of 2011 without additional applications or funding. Mr. Marchand did site assessments on two houses today.

The status of Butler Street is the same. The Department hoped to use the property for relocation during the Newhall area remediation. There was discussion on Newhall remediation by Olin. The Department of Economic and Community Development has state bond money to do demolition of severely damaged property. There are many factors involved. Up to date information can be found on Newhallinfo.org.

Mr. Brown is concerned that residents in the neighborhood might not understand the seriousness of this issue. Mrs. Bandon mentioned that the Newhall Coalition meets regularly. Elizabeth Hayes and Rev. Hamin head that group. There will be further discussion of this issue at the next CDCAC meeting

Mr. Marchand reported one closing this month on the down payment assistance program. There are no Fair Rent/Fair Housing mediations scheduled at this time.

The Concord/Dixwell Streetscape went out to bid and the bids are being reviewed currently.

5 Year Plan

Mr. Marchand reported that the five year action plan and first year plan are being developed. A public input session was held and was well attended. Approximately 130 surveys have been returned. The Plan gets submitted to HUD.

The Public Service component is really critical and represents 15% of the CDBG funding. The surveys also help. The next public session will be about the draft of the plan and comments will be accepted. This has to go to Council for approval. It is critical that the PSA portion is completed tonight. Mr. Marchand hoped that Commissioners have looked at the recommendations and are ready to discuss and vote.

Mr. McGarry had a general comment – does everyone get funded? Is there criteria where if everyone is getting funded and the same/less than last year. He doesn't feel the requests are helpful. The commission does not want to replace local funding and tries to help as many people in the community as it can. In the past the feeling was it doesn't make sense to give less than \$3,000.

Commissioners discussed the awards to the Public Service Agencies and made the following determination:

Blue Hills Theater	\$0	Columbus House	\$5,000
Clelian Center	\$0	Community Services Summer Camp	\$6,000

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Community Services Food Bank	\$8,000	Youth Services Field Trip	\$3,000
Birmingham/Domestic Violence	\$6,000	Youth Services Enrichment	\$3,000
Elderly Services Telephone	\$7,000	Youth Services Quality Improvements	\$4,000
Hamden BOE Reach Program	\$3,000	Youth Services Dance	\$3,000
Hamden BOE Steps Program	\$3,000	Brundage Library	\$3,000
New Haven Legal Assistance	\$4,000	Christian Tabernacle Church	\$4,000
Parks & Recreation Summer Program	\$6,000	Community Action Agency	\$0
Partnerships Adult Daycare	\$7,000	Newhall Housing Dev. Corp.	\$5,000
Place Summer Camp	\$4,000	Young Audiences of CT	\$3,000

Mr. Curtis made a motion to approve the contribution amounts as noted above. Mr. Brooks seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Mr. McGarry made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Blandon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Acting Clerk