



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes SPCL. JNT. CTTEE. ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF ABANDONED AND FORECLOSED HOMES

ALD. ROBERT BAUMAN AND STEVE CHERNOF, CO-CHAIRS
*Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.; Ald. Willie L. Hines, Jr.; Antonio Perez,
and Maria Prioletta*

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Monday, May 10, 2010

9:00 AM

Room 301-A, City Hall

Meeting convened: 9:08 A.M.

Present 5 - Hines Jr., Prioletta, Davis, Bauman and Perez

Excused 1 - Chernof

1. Review and approval of the minutes of the April 12th meeting.

Ald. Hines moved, seconded by Mr. Perez, for approval of the minutes. There were no objections.

2. Update from the Department of City Development, Community Block Grant Administration and the Dept. of Neighborhood Services related to the city's plan for dispersal of Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds.

Ms. Prioletta, Dept. of City Development, said that the department still has no applicants for buy-in-your neighborhood, but it is still doing more outreach efforts. The department is interviewing real estate brokers to work on marketing properties in the land bank, as well as some other city properties. The ordinance which approved an accelerated in-rem process was approved and the Treasurer's Office, City Attorney's Office, Dept. of Neighborhood Services and Dept. of City Development met on how this would be administered. The departments discussed which properties would be considered for accelerated in-rem proceedings. Those properties would be those vacant for more than 6 months or abandoned; historic properties or in historic districts; properties that require significant city services (cleanup orders, police calls, etc.); chronic nuisance properties and properties that are in redeveloping areas or impeding redevelopment. The City Attorney's Office does require that depts. submit a 6-page form so that uniformity clauses can be shown to be met. The Dept. of City Development has no issues filling out the form, although Ald. Bauman thought that the intent of the ordinance was to avoid having departments submit the forms. Ald. Bauman feels that requiring the forms thwarts the will of the Common Council. Ald. Bauman feels that a paper trail will be created by the departments, but there is no need for an additional 6-page form to be completed solely for the City Attorney's Office. The Dept. of City Development can fill

out the form for the properties through mid-June (the submission deadline) and will track how long this takes the department. Ald. Bauman said that the local alderman must be involved in the process of selecting properties. In 2011, the City Attorney's Office is proposing to do three filings per year as they're looking at economy of scale. Pres. Hines stated that the City Attorney's Office is trying to work with what the Council wants, but that office also has its own internal bureaucracy. The Dept. of City Development said that there are 900 properties on the in-rem list; the City Attorney's Office estimates that half of those will be redeemed by the owners. Departments of Neighborhood Services and City Development will review the City Attorney's Office form and see if it can be streamlined. The departments will report back to the Committee on this issue.

Mr. Dahlberg said that the department has obligated all of the state dollars for demolition and nearly all of the federal funds. He provided members with a list of specific properties and the raze status of each. Mr. Dahlberg will report back on the status of Samaria house, at 27th and Richardson Place at the next meeting. The Dept. of City Development also has some funds for landscaping of these properties to benefit the neighborhood, such as planting hardy trees or shrubs, rather than merely grass. The bid opening for deconstruction contracts is this morning. There are approximately 65 properties on the list of which the large majority will be razed by the end of the year. Ald. Davis would like an additional column - one that notes the assessed property taxes from the previous year's taxes.

Ald. Davis is working with the police department to create a strategic plan to monitor vacant properties using block grant funds. This request is a result of the boarded-up homes which have become settlements for squatters and vagrants. The Committee supported this plan and this would result in the police dept. having to appear at the Community and Economic Development Committee to report on how it would do this. Ald. Davis will continue to pursue this plan.

3. Set next meeting date and agenda.

June 2nd at 9 a.m.

*Meeting adjourned: 9:54 A.M.
Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant*