

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**  
**September 14, 2011**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alderman David Bogdala, Alderman Jesse Downing, Arthur Landry, Alderman Theodore Ruffalo, Anderson Lattimore, and Ronald Frederick

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Alderman Daniel Prozanski

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jeff Labahn and Anthony Geliche

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Bogdala at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Approval of Minutes from the August 22, 2011 and August 23, 2011

A motion was made by Mr. Frederick and seconded by Mr. Lattimore to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes-6; Noes-0).

**1. Project Funding under the 2012 Community Development Block Grant Program**

Alderman Bogdala identified the Committee members who will abstain from voting on categories due to their involvement with related committees. Mr. Lattimore will abstain from the Public Service category. Mr. Frederick will abstain from the Housing and Planning & Management categories.

The Committee reviewed the Public Service category - \$144,925 Available.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Frederick to fund the City of Kenosha - Police Department at -0-. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Frederick to fund the Kenosha Area Family & Aging - Volunteer Transportation for \$5,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Frederick to fund Women & Children's Horizons - Legal Advocacy Program for \$20,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Walkin' In My Shoes - Survival Backpack Street Outreach Program for \$5,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Frederick to fund the Urban League - Customer Service & On-Line Cashier Training for -0-. The motion passed. (Ayes-4; Noes-1; Abstain-1) *Alderman Downing voted no and Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Bogdala to fund ELCA Urban Outreach Center - Helping Residents become Self-Sufficient for \$41,260.

Mr. Frederick said he believes this is a worthy cause, but he does not support that amount, he would support a more modest amount. Alderman Ruffalo withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Frederick and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund ELCA Urban Outreach Center - Helping Residents become Self Sufficient for \$20,630. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Kenosha Literacy Council - Long Term Literacy for \$5,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Oasis Youth Center - Site Security for \$5,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-4; Noes-1; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

Mr. Geliche said the balance remaining is \$84,295.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Frederick to fund Kenosha Achievement Center - Employment Exploration for \$15,325. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

Mr. Geliche said the balance remaining is \$68,970.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Kenosha YMCA - Frank Neighborhood Project for \$25,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Shalom Center - Emergency Family Shelter for \$25,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

Mr. Geliche said the balance remaining is \$18,970.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Downing to fund Spanish Center - Continuum of Care for \$18,970. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

A motion was made by Mr. Landry and seconded by Mr. Frederick to approve the entire Public Service category as stated. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

The Committee reviewed the Housing, Neighborhood Improvement/Economic Development category - \$628,009 available.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Women & Children's Horizons - Building Repairs for \$45,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Downing to fund Urban League - Facility Conversion for -0-. The motion passed. (Ayes-4; Noes-1; Abstain-1) *Alderman Downing voted no. Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Mr. Lattimore and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund City of

Kenosha - Street Improvements for \$400,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Downing and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund Kenosha Achievement Center - Workshop Improvements for \$25,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

Mr. Geliche said balance remaining is \$158,009.

A motion was made by Mr. Landry and seconded by Mr. Lattimore to fund Kenosha Sailing Center - Small Boat Basin for \$4,800.

Alderman Bogdala said he will not be supporting this motion.

The motion failed. (Ayes-2; Noes-3; Abstain-1) *Alderman Bogdala, Alderman Downing and Alderman Ruffalo voted no. Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Downing and seconded by Alderman Ruffalo to fund Kenosha Sailing Center - Small Boat Basin for -0-. The motion passed. (Ayes-3; Noes-2; Abstain-1) *Mr. Landry and Mr. Lattimore voted no. Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Mr. Landry to fund WI Women's Business Initiative Corp - Micro-Enterprise Development Continuum for \$150,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

Mr. Geliche said balance remaining is \$8,009.

Alderman Bogdala asked for clarification of Habitat for Humanity could be funded. Mr. Geliche yes, but they must be incorporated before their agreement goes before the Common Council.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Bogdala to fund Kenosha Common Markets - Community Commercial Kitchen & Marketplace for \$8,009. The motion failed. (Ayes-2; Noes-3; Abstain-1) *Alderman Downing, Mr. Landry and Mr. Lattimore voted no. Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Mr. Lattimore and seconded by Mr. Landry to at the remaining \$8,009 to the City of Kenosha - Street Improvements request. The motion passed. (Ayes-4; Noes-1; Abstain-1) *Alderman Ruffalo voted no. Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Mr. Landry and seconded by Mr. Lattimore to approve the entire category as stated. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

The Committee reviewed the Planning/Management category - \$193,233 available.

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Bogdala to fund Kenosha Common Markets - Feasibility Study for \$30,000.

Mr. Landry said he does not support the funding. Funding them will directly affect the City and taxpayers. The informational sheet we received from Mr. Geliche shows only six months of wages and we have already used up \$88,000 for wages.

Alderman Ruffalo said he believes the funding for \$30,000 is reasonable, it is only half of what they are asking for. They will be providing opportunities for the community at

large. This is a cultural problem. We need to create entrepreneurs, create jobs. This is a vision for our future.

Alderman Downing said he would like to fund the study to see if it is feasible at all. Alderman Downing suggested funding them for \$25,000.

Mr. Lattimore asked where we would get funds to pay the City wages if this money was taken from that funding request.

Alderman Bogdala said he would like to fund at a higher amount, but will settle for the modest request of \$30,000. There will be savings from the changes and merger of the Departments of City Development and Neighborhood Services & Inspections. Alderman Bogdala added that as Chairman of the Finance Committee, he will find the funds within the budget and make sure this does not impact the taxpayer.

The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Downing to fund the HOPE Council - Hope House Planning Grant for \$10,000. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Downing to fund the City of Kenosha - Program Administration for \$153,233. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Mr. Lattimore and seconded by Mr. Landry to approve the entire category as stated. The motion passed. (Ayes-5; Noes-0; Abstain-1) *Mr. Frederick abstained.*

A motion was made by Alderman Ruffalo and seconded by Alderman Downing to approve the entire project funding allocation as stated. The motion passed. (Ayes-4; Noes-0; Abstain-2) *Mr. Frederick and Mr. Lattimore abstained.*

### **Public Comments**

Alan Eisenberg, Acting CEO and President of the Urban League, 5123 N. Lake Drive, Milwaukee, said he does not understand why the Urban League did not receive any funding this year. The Urban League submitted a request for funding to convert a space into a dormitory. The Urban League was then going to get clients from Walkin in My Shoes. The Urban League also requested an amount to assist their computer lab to train and educate individuals for a job. Total funding was denied and he would like an explanation. I would like someone to get back to me.

Jo Wyn, 7911 60th Avenue, Kenosha, thanked the Committee for the proposed funding. We talked about aiding the youth services portion, the Urban League may be able to help with that.

Heather Lux, 10282 51st Court, Pleasant Prairie, thanked the Committee for their proposed funding.

### **Committee Comments**

Mr. Frederick said that Kenosha does have a Youth Services program that is currently administered by Kenosha Human Development Services.

Mr. Lattimore told Mr. Eisenberg if the Urban League has other programs you are partnering with, please document that information in your proposal. Mr. Lattimore also thanked Staff for their hard work.

Alderman Bogdala thanked Staff and other Committee members for their hard work.

### **Staff Comments**

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Downing and seconded by Mr. Lattimore. The motion passed unanimously (6 ayes; 0 noes).

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

*Meeting Minutes Prepared by: Kay Schueffner, Department of City Development*

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