

Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing Minutes
February 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 a.m. in the Mayor's Office. Kathaleen Shaw, Director Economic Development, read the public hearing notice in accordance with the Sunshine Law of the State of New Jersey. The public hearing was published in the Home News Tribune, and the Community Development Board Members were provided an affidavit of publication for this public hearing. The Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing Notice was provided to the following Carteret Department for notification and posting on bulletin boards: Municipal Court, Library, Borough Hall, Health, Parks, Volunteer Fire Department, Police Department, Office on Aging, Carteret Housing Authority, Kiddie Keep Well Program, Sr. Citizens Club, Office Emergency Management, Carteret First Aid. Mayor Daniel J. Reiman introduced Kathaleen Shaw as the new Director, responsible for the SID, UEZ, CDBG, NPP Programs in Carteret.

Roll call of the Community Development Board Members:

Present and in attendance: Mayor Daniel J. Reiman, Angelo Golino, Joseph Caliguari, William Nix, Councilman Randy Krum by teleconference, Kathaleen R. Shaw, Director of Economic Development. Absent was Frank Wall (medical appointment), Denise San Flippo (out of town)

Reorganization of the 2008 Community Development Board members was offered by a motion by Mayor Daniel Reiman to nominate: William Nix as Chairman, the motion was second by Joseph Caliguari; a second motion to nominate Joe Golino as Vice Chair, second by Joseph Caliguari, a third motion to nominate Kathaleen Shaw as Treasurer, by Mayor Daniel Reiman. There being no additional nominates for each position, the nominations were closed. The Board unanimously approved the complete slate of officers for the 2008 Community Development Board.

The minutes of the February 16, 2007 CDBG Meeting were reviewed. Approval of the 2007 minutes was offered by Mayor Daniel Reiman, second by William Nix with unanimously approval of the minutes as submitted.

The remaining CDBG project balances were reviewed. Kathaleen Shaw informed the Board that the program allocation for 2008 tentatively remains the same as last year's amount \$101,700, which was presented at the January 26, 2008 HCD Committee Meeting in New Brunswick. The CDBG project balances for previous program years were reviewed. According to the January 22, 2008 project balance report a total of \$153,931.97 remains in the Carteret programs. Kathaleen Shaw reports that as of February 15, 2008 the project balance is \$50,000. The Community Development office has encumbered, paid and finalized reimbursements from the county that bring the outstanding project balance total to \$50,000. The Sr. Sidewalk ADA Program is underway and weather permitting will be finalized this quarter.

2008 CDBG Grant funding is down 4% or about \$81,000. The funding has gone down each of the last five years and now is \$480,000 lower than in 2003. The County has exhausted other funds; therefore we are going to have to pay for each grant year from its own funding. There is \$21,008 in the new grant for discretionary projects. 2008 theirs are no unspent returned prior years' funds, so rehab loan returns will be al we have to expand the pool. Depending on what loan returns com in between now and the end of March, the County may have to defer at least some discretionary decisions until later in the year. With fewer discretionary funds for 2008, the County suggests use of CDBG funds for capital projects. County advises not to plan on getting any additional discretionary money for municipal projects.

New Business included the proposed 2008 projects and anticipated funding limit of \$101,700, the same allocation as 2007. The projects proposed include the following:

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Using Agency	Project	Amount
Small Business Grant Women/Minority	Carteret Micro Loan Program	15,000
Carteret Community Dev Program	Carteret Building Rehab Housing/Commercial)	25,000
Carteret Recreation & Parks	Carteret Park Basketball/Tennis Courts Rehab	45,700
Kiddie Keep Well Camp	Camp for Disadvantaged	1,000
Carteret Community Dev Program	ADA Curb Sidewalk	15,000
		101,700

Two projects were brought to the attention of the Community Development Office. Carteret Volunteer Fire Department request for self contained breathing apparatus SCBA Voice Amplifiers and Air Cylinders by Chief O'Connor. Mayor Reiman referred that request to the Carteret Business Partnership (CBP) SID II funding resources, dedicated to hazard abatement/prevention. It was discussed that in previous years the air cylinders were funded by CDBG prior to the creation of SID II funding. It will be referred to the CBP Board of Directors for consideration and the Chief will be informed. The Youth Police Academy program has a program balance from the 2007 funding and they will continue to administer the program using that balance and look for project inclusion for the 2009 project year.

The Board opened the meeting for public discussion at 10:30 a.m. by a motion from William Nix, and a second to the motion by Joseph Caliguari. No one was present from the public. The public session was closed by a motion from William Nix and Joseph Caliguari.

A motion to approve the proposed 2008 Carteret CDBG Projects was offered by Joseph Caliguari, second Mayor Reiman. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor to approve the 2008 projects. There was no further discussion. A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Mayor Reiman, second by Joseph Caliguari, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.

There was discussion regarding the entire 2007 project funding requests and the tentative allocation \$101,700 for Carteret. All projects identified and presented at this meeting exceeded the projected funding availability for 2007/2008. All requests will be considered, and there will be options explored to fund the OEM request for vehicle tires, which may not be eligible under the program guidelines. Every attempt to fund the OEM request will be explored. A motion to approve the 2007 Project Proposals to submit to the CDBG Program was offered by Councilman Ron Rios, second by William Nix. With all in favor to approve the 2007 Project Proposals they will be forwarded to the governing body as the recommendation of the Community Development Board.

Mayor Daniel Reiman discussed the current funding formulas that are used by the County and Carteret's on-going partnership in the consortium along with other Middlesex County communities. Carteret has a large low and moderate-income population that competes with other Middlesex Communities, such as Monroe and Metuchen, who does not have the same demographic profiles as Carteret. There has been discussion to leave the consortium and seek individual status for future funding. This will be explored during this year to seek the best options to serve the broadest population in Carteret.

Submitted by K. Shaw 2/22/2008

