

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2011**

ATTENDANCE: M. Evette Brantley, Chair; Lydia Martinez, Martin McCarthy, Robert Curwen, Leticia Colon (6:18 p.m.); Warren Blunt (6:22 p.m.)

OTHERS: Valerie Sorrentino, Michael Nidoh, Council President Thomas McCarthy; Alexandra McGoldrick, Central Grants Acting Director, Council Member Susan Brannelly;

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 18, 2011

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2011.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTIN MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

05-11 - Resolution regarding the Acquisition of 115 Virginia Avenue

Mr. Nidoh came forward and reviewed the details around 115 Virginia Avenue, which the State formerly owned with the intention of building a woman's prison. The State will transfer the property to the City as is. The only cost would be \$500 real estate conveyance. Mr. Nidoh said that the City will develop a pocket park at this location in the future.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 05-11 - RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ACQUISITION OF 115 VIRGINIA AVENUE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTIN MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Brannelly joined the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

10-11 2011 2014 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant

Ms. Sorrentino then reviewed the details of the grant and said that the City Departments much learned a great deal when the Hurricane came through. There are no matching funds required for this grant.

11-11 Youth Service Bureau Grant

Ms. Sorrentino said that this was Department of Education grant which pays for administrative staff and nine various programs. She then listed the various Youth Service programs. The grant does have a matching component, which is funded by CDBG funding. The Health Department donates space. Eight of the programs receive \$5,000 and one of them receives \$6,000, with the extra \$1,000 was for a baseball team. The 2011-2012 CDBG funding is already in place, but this grant from the State was late in arriving. Discussion followed about the details and the process for selecting the programs for funding.

Council President McCarthy joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

12-11 Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control

Ms. Sorrentino reviewed the details, which includes the staff and two targeted campaigns. There is a large number of older houses in the City and so an educational component is important. The campaign will be on the radio and ads will be on the buses in both English and Spanish.

The discussion then moved to the cost of the marketing campaign and whether it should be done by the staff of the Lead Department.

Council Member Colon joined the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

There are no required matching funds from the City.

Council Member Blunt joined the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

The discussion then moved to working with the Neighborhood Trust organization to make the residents aware of lead screening.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:**

10-11 RE: 2011 2014 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT;

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**11-11 RE: YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU GRANT; AND
12-11 RE: LEAD POISONING PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

14-11 – USCM Childhood Obesity Prevention Grant

Ms. McGoldrick came forward and gave a brief overview of the Grant for Childhood Obesity, which is offered through the U.S. Council of Mayors. This pilot program is to raise awareness of healthy eating for children. This project will be done through three of the schools, which will be funded once the grant is awarded. A chef will be preparing fresh foods on site rather than receiving prepackage foods at one school, a second school will have a physical activity program and the third school will be the control group.

Council Member Curwen left the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

There are no matching funds required and the contract dates would be January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. The award announcement of the grant funding is pending, so the approval would be for the City to enter into the contract if the grant is awarded to the City.

Discussion followed about the Superintendent and the BOE Food Service Director approvals; how the staff for these positions would be selected; and how the schools would be selected.

There were questions about who would do the evaluation of the students, how the chef would determine the menu and how the fresh ingredients will be provided. Discussion followed.

It was suggested that the School Based Health Centers work with the program.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 14-11 –
USCM CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION GRANT
** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTIN MCCARTHY SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTIN MCCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

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