



## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Department of Community Development  
807 E. Main Street, Durham, NC 27701  
Golden Belt Building 2, Suite 200



### **Minutes - Regular Meeting August 27, 2012**

The Durham Citizens Advisory Committee met on the above date and time with the following members present: DeWarren K. Langley (Chairman), April Johnson (Secretary), Alice Cheek, Richard Fuqua, Clark Grundler, Roger Loyd, Will Sutton, Paula Thomas and Anthony Royster (via phone)

Excused Absence: SaKoyra Bullock (Vice Chairwoman), Diley Burton, Will Sutton, and Paula Thomas

Others Present: Reginald Johnson (Interim Director, Department of Community Development), Martha Williamson (FLS Interpreter), and Alice Poteat (FLS Interpreter)

#### **Subject: Call to Order**

Chairman Langley called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Chairman Langley informed the Committee that Lynn Holloway resigned from the Committee advised Holloway to write an official letter of resignation to the City Clerk.

Chairman Langley also noted that he received prior notice from Vice Chairwoman Bullock and Committee Members Burton, Sutton and Thomas of their inability to attend the meeting, thus their absences were excused.

#### **Subject: Roll Call**

Chairman Langley called roll. He acknowledged the presence of a quorum.

#### **Subject: Action on Agenda**

Chairman Langley asked the Committee to review the agenda and make any additions and/or modifications followed by action on the agenda.

**Motion** by Committee Member Loyd and seconded by Committee Member Grundler to approve the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Subject: Action on Minutes**

Chairman Langley asked the Committee to review the minutes of the special meeting held on August 6, 2012 and asked whether there were additions and/or modifications. There were no additions or

modifications to the minutes.

**Motion** by Secretary Johnson and seconded by Chairman Langley to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on August 6, 2012. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Subject: Contents for Draft FY 2011-2012 Annual Report**

Chairman Langley explained that the Committee is required to submit an Annual Report to the City Council and Board of County Commissioners which includes an overview of the work of the Committee, what was done that made a difference, the proposed plans and objectives for the upcoming 12-month period and what type of resources if any may be needed in pursuing upcoming plans and goals so that the City Council is better able to anticipate future needs and annual attendance report of members.

Chairman Langley solicited suggestions and/or comments from the Committee on the content for the draft FY 2011-2012 Annual Report.

Reginald Johnson, Interim Director of the Department of Community Development suggested including that the Department provides monthly updates to the Committee on the Southside Revitalization Project.

Chairman Langley thanked Mr. Johnson for his suggestion and noted he would draft the FY 2011-2012 Annual Report in consultation with Vice Chairwoman Bullock for review and approval of the Committee at the next meeting.

**Subject: Update | Southside Revitalization Project**

Mr. Johnson reported that dirt is being moved on the east side of Southside Revitalization Project. The next step is meeting with the infrastructure contractor on grading site, setting site of the pond and setting site for vertical construction building. The next major development is for McCormack Baron Salazar to close on tax credits for the projects. HJ Russell is the construction company contracted to build the 12 vertical buildings. The company has 14 months to complete the project with a certificate of occupancy.

On homeownership, Mr. Johnson stated that the City is in the process of purchasing properties/lots owned by Self Help in Southside by March 2013. The Department is working on financing options for homebuyers. Marketing for homeownership will be forth coming in the next months.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Section 3 Plan is working out well and applications for employment are still being received.

Chairman Langley inquired about the Whitted School building. Mr. Johnson responded that Durham County Government sent out a Request for Proposal for development of the site. He noted that he has not been updated on the recent developments but to his knowledge there are two City officials on the review panel and only two applicants were reviewed on last Friday.

Chairman Langley thanked Mr. Johnson for the update.

**Subject: Update | Continuum of Care Application Process**

Chairman Langley disseminated copies of a memorandum, 2012 Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Grants Competition & Application process, from Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager with the Department of Community Development.

The memorandum explained that the Department continues to await notice from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) concerning the 2012 Continuum of Care Homeless Grants Competition. Once the Department receives notification of the opening of the registration period, the Department will finalize the year's CoC application as quickly as possible and determine the schedule for the 2012 CoC Homeless Grants Competition.

**Subject: Update | 2012 Analysis on Impediments to Fair Housing Choice**

Interim Director Johnson advised that HUD entitlement agencies are required to have a consultant review Fair Housing laws and how they are implemented with the agency's jurisdiction. The consultant is hired to capture any weakness as it relates to Fair Housing laws in that entire jurisdiction every five years. The report will determine how our laws comport with federal law. The document is now available online. There was a public hearing on the matter for which City Council asked the Department to provide a response and decide whether make changes to the Analysis on Impediments report.

Mr. Johnson encouraged members of the Committee read the Executive Summary in lue of the full report.

**Subject: Committee Concerns, Suggestions, & Ideas**

Chairman Langley asked members of the Committee if there were any concerns, suggestions and/or ideas.

Secretary Johnson recommended the Committee contact Lee Worsley, Deputy County Manager for Durham County Government about the Whitted School building. She also recommended support any development funding resource that will ensure a developer can afford a completed construction project. Secretary Johnson noted that if the Whitted School building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Historic Tax Credits would be a financial incentive available for a developer like the ones used to revitalize Downtown Durham.

Chairman Langley indicated he would request an update on the Whitted School building from Mr. Worsley on behalf of the Committee.

Chairman Langley indicated that he would provide an email update on the Scattered Housing Program and Rougemont Groundwater Problem from Andrew Cummings, Assistant County Manager for Special Projects with Durham County Government.

**Subject: Announcements**

Mr. Johnson announced that the Department is preparing to release the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Rapid Re-Housing applications this week. The application deadline is September 28.

Chairman Langley announced that the Council to End Homelessness in Durham was hosting a free

workshop, Developing a Housing Plan on Thursday, September 6, 2012, 10AM - Noon in the Conference Room of the Department of Neighborhood Improvement Services. He noted that the workshop will describe effective strategies to work with homeless individuals and people at-risk of homelessness to identify the best housing option(s) for them and to assist them in locating housing that meets their needs.

Chairman Langley noted that he would disseminate the information about the workshop via email because pre-registration was required.

Mr. Johnson also announced that the Council to End Homelessness in Durham was hosting a Project Homeless Connect event on Thursday, October 11, 2012, 10AM to 4PM at the Durham Bulls Stadium administrative building. He noted that organizational meetings are held every Thursday at 2:30PM and welcomed members of the Committee.

**Subject: Adjournment**

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:43pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
April Johnson, Secretary