

**Charles Village Community Benefits District
Board Meeting
February 20, 2007, 7PM
Future Care Homewood Nursing Center
2700 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218**

Board Members in Attendance:

Ron Griffin	Jeffrey Millard
Susanne Riveles	Gary Letteron
Richard Burnham	Don Donahue*
Dana Moore	Myron Seay
Mary Pat Clarke*	Rob Books
Jane Honeycutt	Steven Gewirtz
Derek Demaree	

*non-voting members

Staff in Attendance: David Hill

Guests: Donna Langley and Nick Rudolph, Baltimore Development Corporation

Call to Order:

Ron Griffin, President, called the meeting to order at 7:08. Stephen Gewirtz stated that the meeting was not official because members had not all taken an oath to be sworn in officially as members. Mr. Griffin stated that the meeting would continue as scheduled and that if necessary any actions taken at this meeting would be confirmed at a later meeting.

Presentation: Waverly Main Street Year End Report

Donna Langley and Nick Rudolph from the Baltimore Development Corporation distributed the Year End Report for the Waverly Main Street program, and also gave a presentation summarizing the findings in several areas: organization, economic revitalization, design, and promotion. Generally, the report was very favorable. Ms Langley praised the accomplishments of John Lundquist (Manager, Waverly Main Street program) during the year, highlighting the number of new facades constructed in the business district, the valuable work being done by the Breakfast Club, and special events such as the Fashion Show, the Christmas Tree Lighting, and the Parade. She pointed out that more work needs to be done in the areas of fund raising, promotion, and education.

Mr. Nick Rudolph then described the BDC “Trash Initiative” that will begin this year, using Waverly Main Street as a model. More here . . .

Letter from William Varga:

Mr. Griffin directed the members' attention to a letter in the Board packet from William Varga, Assistant Attorney General, stating his opinion that the CVCBDMA Board members are subject to taking an oath or affirmation as required in Article I, Section 9 of the Maryland Constitution. Members must take the oath or affirmation before the Clerk of the Court (Frank Conaway) or his deputy. Mr. Griffin said that he had already taken the oath and encouraged others to do so prior to the next Board, March 13. He also stated that at the beginning of the public meeting on March 13, Frank Conaway or his deputy would be present to swear or affirm members into office. Stephen Gewirtz pointed out that the last page of Mr. Varga's opinion was missing. David Hill said he would forward the missing page to members.

Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Griffin referred members their Board Packet that contained the minutes to several previous Board minutes, and asked that they be reviewed and approved.

Mr. Millard moved that the minutes to the meeting of October 10, 2006 be approved as written; Mr. Letteron seconded the motion. Mr. Gewirtz stated that the minutes were incomplete and should have a more detailed explanation of why the members took the action of expelling another member at that meeting. The motion was approved with 9 members in favor and 1 (Mr. Gewirtz) opposed.

Mr. Seay moved that the minutes to the meeting of January 9, 2007 be approved as written; Ms Riveles seconded the motion. Mr. Gewirtz pointed out that two members had signed an affirmation at the beginning of this meeting and that this should be reflected in the minutes. He also pointed out that the vote approving the slate of officers was incorrectly stated as "12 in favor and 1 opposed" when it should read "12 in favor and 1 abstention". The members pointed out several errors in spelling names. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was approved unanimously.

Mr. Seay moved that the minutes to the meeting of January 20, 2007 be approved as written; Ms. Riveles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Millard moved that the minutes to the closed meeting of January 20, 2007 be approved as written; Mr. Riveles seconded the motion. Mr. Gewirtz stated that the minutes as written were incomplete and should be opened. The motion to approve the minutes as written was approved unanimously.

Executive Director's Report:

David Hill gave the Executive Director's report. Mr. Hill directed the members' attention to the full report included in the Board Packet, and then highlight several items.

Mr. Hill then reviewed the Budget and Program Development timeline that had been reviewed at the last meeting, and pointed out that he was required at this time to present to the Board a sketch of the proposed budget and program for FY 2008 at this meeting.

Next, Mr. Hill discussed Proposed Organizational Chart and Budget. He stated that Finance & Executive Committees had approved this sketch of the proposed program and budget for FY 2008. Three parts: Anticipated Income, Proposed Clean and Safe Program, Change in Housing & Economic Revitalization.

More here

Following Mr. Hill's presentation, there was a general discussion on the proposed program and budget. Several members expressed concern about the loss of housing services generally. Mr. Saey stated he was concerned about the loss of housing services currently being delivered by the VISTA volunteer dedicated to the Harwood area. Ms Clarke suggested that Mr. Hill meet with Mr. Saey and other residents of Harwood to discuss how these services would be continued under GHCC or some other entity. Mr. Hill submitted a resolution for the Board's consideration. _____ moved to approve Mr. Hill's resolution as written; _____ seconded the motion. After some discussion, the resolution was amended to include a reference to the continuance of the dedicated volunteer in Harwood, as follows:

***RESOLVED:** The Board of Directors of the CVCBDMA approves in concept the transition of the Housing and Economic Revitalization Programs currently provided by the CVCBDMA, including the Waverly Main Street Program and a VISTA volunteer dedicated to community organizing for the Harwood neighborhood, to the Greater Homewood Community Corporation or some other suitable administrative entity, the details of which will be provided at subsequent meetings.*

This resolution was adopted by a vote _____

Committee Assignments:

Personnel Matter: Request from a former employee

At 9:32, Mr. Griffin closed the meeting so that the members could discuss a personnel matter regarding a request from a former employee.

Mr. Griffin reopened the meeting at 9:52

Adjourned:

With no further business, Mr. Griffin adjourned the meeting at 9:53