



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Draft COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COMMISSION

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Thursday, April 23, 2009

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 300 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### SPECIAL MEETING

#### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 -

Tim Bruer; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Monya A. Choudhury; Steven C. Bartlett;  
Justin O. Markofski and Charlie R. Sanders

**Absent:** 3 -

Marsha A. Rummel; Arthur V. Robinson and Daniel A. O'Callaghan

Staff: Bill Clingan Community Development Director, Sue Wallinger, Anne  
Kenny CDBG Staff

Other: Alder Thuy Pham-Remmele

**CALL TO ORDER:** Sanders called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### REQUEST FOR STIMULUS FUNDS

**2. Request for Stimulus funds for receiving HUD Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program funds and amend the Adopted CDBG Operating budget.**

Sanders read from the title of the resolution to clarify what action the Commission would be voting on tonight. The resolution stated the following:

Stimulus funds for approving the City's Substantial Amendment to the Community and Neighborhood Development Consolidated One Year Action Plan (2008); authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the amendment as a condition for receiving HUD Homelessness Prevention

and Rapid Re-Housing Program funds and amending the adopted CDBG operation budget to recognize \$817,092 in Federal revenues and commensurate expenditure authority and authorizing the CDBG Office to issue a request for proposals for services.

Discussion Highlights:

- Pham-Remmele believes that none of the money should be used for paying taxes for non-profits. She said money should be used on plans only.
- Clingan stated that the guidelines prohibit the Stimulus Funds for tax use.

Wallinger noted that another special meeting will be needed and has been scheduled for July 16.

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Stimulus funds for approving the City's Substantial Amendment to the Community and Neighborhood Development Consolidated One Year Action Plan (2008); authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the amendment as a condition for receiving HUD Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program funds and amending the adopted CDBG operating budget to recognize \$817,092 in federal revenues and commensurate expenditure authority and authorizing the CDBG Office to issue a request for proposals for services.

**This Resolution was Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES**

**1. STIMULUS UPDATE**

Clingan noted that there is a need for more discretion as applied to our money. He stated that one pot is ESG funds, which we just voted upon and another is CDBG, whose guidelines are not out yet. Clingan went on to say that the CDBG funds are more flexible in their use, but the Federal Government is being very cautious with the guidelines.

**Quorum change**

Rummel arrived at 5:15 pm.

**Present:** 7 -

Tim Bruer; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Marsha A. Rummel; Monya A. Choudhury; Steven C. Bartlett; Justin O. Markofski and Charlie R. Sanders

**Absent:** 2 -

Arthur V. Robinson and Daniel A. O'Callaghan

**CONTINUED STIMULUS UPDATE**

Clingan said he would write a "comfort" resolution, which will give information about the energy grant and will try to get it onto the BOE agenda.

Discussion highlights:

- Bruer asked that Alders Schmidt and Rhodes-Conway be given a special

heads up regarding the Energy Block Grant funds.

- Choudhury stated that she hoped the Commission would be able to update the Five-Year Plan because some of us were hoping to get energy updates into that plan before decisions are made concerning energy fund use.
- Clingan noted that the State of Wisconsin is going to be unrelenting regarding the energy money making sure all energy dollars are spent correctly in an attempt to maintain transparency.
- Bruer asked how overburdened non-profits are going to be made to comply with all the regulations regarding the energy funds. He said that we should anticipate an immense amount of tracking and compliance checking and asked how staff will handle this.
- Clingan said the fear is that we won't get the 2009 dollars spent until 2010 with the Energy Block Grant. He said that Nancy Dungan is trying to automate tracking and compliance checking and weave them into existing office systems.
- Bruer noted that the State of Wisconsin just released news that we'll be committing \$17 million dollars toward weatherization, which will also allow apprenticeships to increase.
- Clingan noted three other parts for consideration:
  1. Individual help for owner-occupied residences;
  2. Neighborhood focused initiative providing employment and training services through weathering activities; and
  3. Business and economic efficiency and conservation funding for Madison businesses.
- Bruer expressed concerns that CDBG dollars not be used to shore up private sector businesses as in past practices.
- Clingan said that with the Energy Block Grants, the Federal Government is interested in creating and maintaining jobs. Small businesses have already made contact with interest in energy dollars, especially grocers.
- Pham-Remmele asked, as an Asian minority woman, how do energy dollars affect her product? Is there a better chance with a green product?

#### Quorum change

Bidar-Sielaff left at 5:25 pm.

**Present:** 6 -

Tim Bruer; Marsha A. Rummel; Monya A. Choudhury; Steven C. Bartlett;  
Justin O. Markofski and Charlie R. Sanders

**Absent:** 3 -

Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Arthur V. Robinson and Daniel A. O'Callaghan

#### CONTINUED STIMULUS UPDATE

- Bruer said many Southeast Asians reside in his district.
- Bruer also asked what the vision is regarding getting economic dollars to smaller businesses.
- Rummel suggested starting with local businesses associations.
- Clingan said that it would be necessary to split the money up;

whoever receives dollars has to perform with certain parameters.

- O'Callaghan asked how much money would be available to the average business owner.
- Clingan said that of \$1.5 million dollars, it is a policy decision with the Common Council and to date we have had no answer. Clingan went on to say that we are working with neighborhood indicators to guide target neighborhoods.
- Choudhury pointed out that Federal Legislation has requirements written into it so once it gets to the City level, there is less of an opportunity for things to go wrong.
- Clingan said that discussions would reveal what the pleasures of the Common Council will be with regards to how the money is spent.
- Clingan said that we have to turn in very a detailed plan by June 26, 2009 and need to go before both the BOE and Common Council before that deadline; staff is working very hard to get information underway and will keep working.

**Commissioner Comment:**

Choudhury stated that she needs to take time off from the CDBG Commission and perhaps the Commission would want to appoint someone else to the Gardens Committee, but that may not be necessary. Choudhury said she will be submitting the Gardens Committee minutes to the Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Bruer moved adjournment at 6:45 pm/Bartlett seconded. Unanimous approval.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Kenny, recorder.