
**CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

24-Jan-01

Present

L. WALLACE, CHAIR
S. ENGLEHARDT, VICE CHAIR
V. AMATO
R. BANTUM
H. HENRY
A. MARINO
R. BUTLER
J. KAGAN

Absent

E. BOGDAN
M. DIMON
A. KELLY
D. MITKOSKI
B. PLUM
J. ROBINSON
S. SHAPIRO

Also Present

M. JOHNSON

The meeting began at 5PM.

New members were introduced. R. Butler, H. Henry, and J. Kagan, each said a word by way of introduction, after which other members in attendance introduced themselves and indicated the respective groups they were representing.

A. Marino explained to new members the annual CDBG entitlement cycle. L. Wallace remarked that the cycle was entering its busy period and inquired into the upcoming dates and activities. L. Wallace requested a calendar for the next several events surrounding the application period for new sub-grantees. M. Johnson said he would provide one with the minutes.

Next, minutes from the previous two meetings were read and approved.

J. Kagan and S. Englehardt next inquired into the what was being done about the repeat applicants. M. Johnson summarized what had been discussed on the issue at the last meeting, presented the committee with various alternatives, and requested guidance. S. Englehardt said the grant application should incorporate a question concerning prior receipt of CDBG funds. L. Wallace said it should probably also go into the legal notice. M. Johnson asked how far back should the applicant report? A. Marino clarified that the committee generally supports requesting applicants' full disclosure of all CDBG funds ever received by an organization applying for funding: all years, all money.

Next came the question of how such information should be received and evaluated. It was decided that, after the hearing, applicants for whom the issue of repeated applications arose, could be called back to give an additional account of the status of their previous projects and why they should continue to repeatedly receive CDBG funding. The question also generated discussion on the issue of organizations using CDBG funds to serve clientele not residing in Middletown. It was requested that this also be addressed in the application and application review processes.

M. Johnson reported that the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report had been submitted.

Next, the concept of adopting a more proactive stance with respect to implementing the 5-year Consolidate Plan along the lines of an RFP system was discussed. M. Johnson explained that, while all applications would continue to be welcome, the committee could utilize the 5-year Consolidated Plan to more actively solicit projects addressing priority needs. For starters, M. Johnson suggested selecting two or three projects identified in the Consolidated Plan to prioritize for this year. Members asked to hear a break down of the

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Consolidated Plan. M. Johnson proceeded to do so, but time began to run out. Members asked that alternatives be prepared to choose among (attached). M. Johnson said he would.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.