

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

February 24, 1988

PRESENT

M. Schmidt, Chairman
W. Pillarella
F. Patnaude
C. Guiliano
M. Moroni
L. Cavanaugh
I. Howell
R. Kreh (5:20)
S. Gionfriddo (5:45)
G. Keithan

ALSO PRESENT

E. Russo
D. Kalinowski
T. Gionfriddo
A. Aresco
L. Ozga
W. Kuehn

ABSENT

D. Davignon
D. Kulmacz
W. Oliver
J. Reynolds

The meeting was called to order by M. Schmidt, Chairman, at 5:00 p.m. in Room 208 of the Municipal Building.

Public Session

The public session was opened. Tom Gionfriddo, Executive Director of the Middletown Housing Authority, addressed the Committee regarding the status of their CDBG projects and mentioned he met with the Mayor and W. Kuehn on February 11, 1988 to discuss the Housing Authority's CDBG projects. The City allocated \$21,000 for the enclosure of walkways at Sbona Towers and \$12,600 to modify and update the smoke detection equipment. The Housing Authority immediately had their architect prepare the specifications to enclose the walkways on one level. The City then reprogrammed an additional \$7,500 for the enclosure project. Consequently, the Housing Authority asked Middletown Plate Glass to enclose an additional level. He said the Housing Authority didn't violate any rules but rather bid the project and accepted the one bid. In the past, the Common Council has authorized the waiving of bidding procedures. He said that W. Kuehn sent a letter to the Authority requesting a return of funds.

HUD has not repealed the \$13,000 "finding" which we hope they will.

B. Pillarella said the bottom line is still \$13,000 outstanding.

T. Gionfriddo said the appeal procedure is still open.

Evenelyn Russo, Chairman of the Middletown Housing Authority, said the Mayor sent out an appeal letter this week with new evidence that the Housing Authority was not in the wrong.

T. Gionfriddo said the City should find fault with HUD.

I. Howell asked if the \$13,000 which was disallowed was used to enclose the lower walkway.

T. Gionfriddo responded that the \$13,000 was used to enclose the lower walkway, which was done as a result of a change order.

W. Pillarella said he would like to see a copy of the letter sent to HUD, as well as the new evidence, and a response from HUD.

Concerning the community room project, T. Gionfriddo said M. Masselli and he had agreed to switch funds. The Common Council approved the switch. Hence, the Housing Authority got a couple of bids and proceeded with the work. The new contract with the City asked for new kinds of insurances. The Housing Authority doesn't have broad form property damage or contractual coverage and cannot purchase that kind of insurance. Furthermore, this coverage was not deemed necessary by HUD.

W. Pillarella directed staff to find out from the City Attorney's Office if these two types of coverage are necessary. W. Pillarella asked T. Gionfriddo if there is currently work being done on another CDBG project without a signed contract.

T. Gionfriddo responded that the Housing Authority has \$17,500 for walkway enclosures. There is no signed contract and the work is done.

W. Pillarella asked if the Authority spent the money without the City knowing the work was done.

T. Gionfriddo said he has been asking for a contract since April.

Chairwoman Schmidt closed the public session at 5:48 p.m.

Minutes

Upon a motion by M. Moroni, seconded by L. Cavanaugh, the minutes of October 21, 1987 were unanimously approved. F. Patnaude abstained.

Other

W. Pillarella asked when we are going to demolish Long Hill School. W. Kuehn said he has to work it out with Public Works.

Staff distributed a letter from the YMCA requesting that the 1986 funding appropriated to YMCA be used for residence hall renovations in lieu of the sprinkler system study. Upon a motion by W. Pillarella, seconded by S. Gionfriddo, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the Common Council the change of use of the \$3,834 from YMCA sprinkler study to residence bathroom repairs and residence stair treads.

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

William M. Kuehn, Jr.

WMK/bds

