

CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

March 22, 1976

PRESENT

Mayor A. Marino
W. Howard, Chairman, Preservation Trust
W. Mann, Realtor
J. Nelson, Human Relations
W. Chadwick, Chamber of Commerce
F. Marino, Common Council
E. Dzialo, Housing Authority
W. McRae, Common Council

ALSO PRESENT

G. Daley, Administrative Assistant
A. Kotlowitz
D. Sparks, MDC
W. Kuehn, MDC
C. Tyaack
S. Beinhorn, Press

The meeting was called to order in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building at 8:05 P.M. by W. Howard, Chairman, who explained the purpose of the meeting and the Federal requirements relating to target areas and the fact that social service programs must be located within the target areas or directly affect persons living within target areas.

Community Health Center

Mark Masselli, Director, of the Community Health Center, presented the following information:

. The Center now receives \$15,000.00 through the Community Development Act.

. The Center has been open since 1974, is licensed and accredited as an outpatient facility.

. The staff is overbooked and realistically needs five days per week of professional dental assistance and five days of medical assistance.

. Since November 24, 1975, the Center has held 44 dental clinics involving 468 individuals. During the same period, 31 days have been devoted for medical assistance involving 241 persons and 15 hypertension clinics have been conducted involving 525 persons, mostly 60 - 65 year-old residents of the North End.

. The staff consists of four full-time individuals and seven part-time professionals.

. The budget request for the coming year is \$22,500.00 of which 75% would be spent on professional salaries and the balance for administrative services and supplies.

. A three-member review board which includes Health Director, K. Cyrul, monitors the activities of the Health Center.

. The Center primarily serves the "working poor" and has a sliding payment scale depending upon income and family size.

Monday Night Club

Mrs. Gertrude Carpenter and Kenneth Keller presented the following information in behalf of the Monday Night Club:

. The Club has been in operation for eleven years and meets at the South Congregational Church. Prior to CD funding, the Club received monies from the State Mental Health Association.

. The club membership is 40 persons who live throughout the community including the following locations: Pleasant Street, 6; the Y.M.C.A. 5; Number 500 block on Main Street, 8; Silver Street, 1; Washington Street, 1; area convalescent homes, 14.

. The average attendance at a meeting is 20 - 25 persons (Mr. Keller passed out a newsletter).

. The function of the club is to prevent the return of its members to Connecticut Valley Hospital or other institutions. All members are on 100% Social Security or disability.

. The Club requests \$2,320.00 for the coming year as follows: Director's salary, \$1,820.00; transportation (one or two vans on meeting nights from Middlesex area agency), \$250.00; postage and printing, \$50.00; program assistance, \$200.00.

. Prior to November 24, 1975, the club received a loan from United Way.

Concerned Tenants Organization

Mardi Mandowa presented the following information in behalf of the Concerned Tenants Organization:

. She feels that the program should be funded even though not located in a target area because most of the residents being served formerly came from target areas.

. Even though no money has been spent, the tenants are cleaning up the three community centers with their own funds.

. The organization is asking \$12,000.00 in the coming year, primarily to be used for salaries. Approximately \$2,000.00 would be used for replacement of equipment, office supplies and transportation.

. Bobby James has been hired as the coordinator and the centers would be fully staffed within a week for after-school activities.

. In response to a question by Mr. W. Chadwick, it was stated that other funding sources were being sought.

- . The Concerned Tenants will submit a budget by the week's end.

UPROSE

Diana Vega and Idalia Ramos presented the following information:

- . The Uprose program is directed at solving the problems of dropouts, unemployment and illiteracy among Cubans, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans - the entire Spanish-speaking community.
- . Uprose is already dealing with the education and employment needs such as being an interpretation service.
- . Uprose is broadening its scope to serve all residents of the North End through their office on Main Street.
- . The programs in effect now are Spanish impact program, adult training sessions and summer youth awareness programs to be conducted at the Holy Trinity Church.
- . A major problem to the Spanish-speaking community is that only ten or twelve landlords rent to Spanish-speaking persons.
- . Idalia Ramos, Uprose director, is a Wesleyan student to graduate in spring, 1976, and is a bilingual teacher.
- . The intent of Uprose is to make community life better for all area residents and the City (D. Vega).
- . There are 13 Spanish-speaking families in Traverse Square, Long River Village and Maplewood Terrace.
- . Uprose is requesting (including benefits) \$31,949.00 in the next year. Approximately \$16,000.00 in services and Ceta staff come from C.A.G.M., Ceta, Wesleyan and in-kind.
- . The Spanish-speaking population in Middletown is now about 350.
- . Henry Eaddy, the proprietor of the Hamrambe Restaurant, spoke of the need for a recreation center in the North End and his desire to make the North End work for all the people.
- . Jame Aiken, field organizer for U.E.I.U., supported the Uprose proposal and cited the major North End issues as health and welfare.

Turtle

Eileen Monteiro, Betty Walrond and Mary Ann Ricker spoke of the following:

- . The current grant of \$10,000.00 is used to subsidize the tuition for

ten handicapped children from Middletown.

. Turtle provides diagnostic services and primarily serves the training needs of children aged 2 - 3.8.

. Last year, 50% of the children in the program came from target areas. This year, 25% and the percentage for next year will be known by August.

. Turtle again requests \$10,000.00.

. The full tuition of a child in the program is \$1,500.00.

. If the program was fully funded, Turtle would have a budget of \$35,000.00. They are presently operating under a capital budget of \$15,000.00.

. Turtle will be applying to HEW next year and are requesting CD funds to carry them until permanent HEW funding can be secured. They are also applying for Title 20 funds. Turtle has applied, for and denied, funds from United Fund, DCA, Mental Health and the Jones Fund.

They are receiving some support from the Junior Women's Club, snacks, etc., and they have a CETA position and a student intern from Community College.

The paid staff consists of two part-time drivers and a full-time staff member.

The Council agreed to meet again on Monday, March 29th, at 7:30 P.M.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 P.M.