

# City of Racine

*City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403*



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 2, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 205, City Hall

### Community Development Committee

*Notice is hereby given that a majority of the members of the Common council may be present at the meeting, and although this may constitute a quorum of the Common Council, the Council will not take any action at this meeting.*

**Chairman Becker called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Gary Becker, Jarvis Finley, Thomas Friedel, David L. Maack, James T. Spangenberg, Ken Lumpkin, Brian O'Connell, Donnie Snow and Rick Heller

**EXCUSED:** John M. Engel, Thomas M. Sollman, Delia Martinez, Carol Wallace and Mick Wynhoff

*Other Present: Assistant Director of City Development Joseph Heck*

**Approval of Minutes for the October 6, 2005 Meeting.**

**Alderman Friedel moved to approve the minutes, as distributed. Alderman Finley seconded. Motion approved.**

1. [06-1431](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Director of City Development wishing to review proposals and funding allocation for the 2006 HOME Housing Investment Partnership Funds.

**Recommendation:** That the 2006 HOME Housing Investment Partnership grant be allocated per the attached document (Recommendation 06-1431.pdf).

*Chairman Becker introduced the item and invited funding applicants to address the Committee.*

*Claudius Adebayo, OIC of Racine County, and Rosalinda Westmoreland, 2907 Washington Avenue, addressed the Committee.*

*Chairman Becker and Mr. O'Connell reviewed the recommended allocation.*

*Alderman Friedel said he felt the allocation process should be revised to allow more committee and public input.*

**A motion was made by Mr. O'Connell, seconded by Mr. Heller to approve the recommended allocation. Motion approved.**

2. [06-1483](#) **Subject:** Direct Referral. Request for an allocation of Local Option funds to the Racine YWCA's Women out of Poverty.

**Recommendation:** Approve the allocation of up to \$40,000 from the Local Option Fund to the Women Out of Poverty program.

**Fiscal Note:** There are sufficient funds in the Local Option Fund for this allocation..

*Debbi Embry, Racine YWCA, explained the Women Out of Poverty program and the need for Local Option funding.*

**A motion was made by Alderman Maack, seconded by Alderman Finley, to allocate up to \$40,000 from the Local Option Fund with the contingency that any funds unspent by December 31, 2006 be returned to the Local Option Fund. Motion approved.**

### Miscellaneous Business: Local Option Fund

*Mr. O'Connell reported that there is over \$534,000 in the Local Option Fund and recommended having a Spring 2006 funding cycle to allocate some of the surplus. Alderman Spangenberg asked if the Spring cycle would follow the same procedures as the normal cycle. Mr. Lumpkin suggested funding only new activities. Alderman Maack asked if a maximum allocation could be established. Mr. Snow suggested that the Committee consider restoring funding lost by applicants in the normal funding cycle. Alderman Friedel recommended having the staff develop procedures for the Spring cycle and submit them to the Committee for approval.*

*Cheryl Buckley, Homeless Assistance Leadership Organization, remarked that the Community Development Block Grant allocation process is difficult for both the applicants and the Committee. She suggested restoring funding to applicants whose grants were reduced during the final round of the previous cycle. Alderman Maack responded that he prefers to take a fresh cycle of applications.*

*Seyoum Mengesha, Community Economic Development Corporation, stated that his organization's borrowers are repaying their loans better than in the past and therefore had not needed a \$35,000 recapitalization of its loan fund. He said those funds had been recaptured by the City and placed in the Local Option Fund. Mr. O'Connell reiterated that the recapture of funds from the Community Economic Development Corporation should be seen as a positive sign of improved performance of its loan fund.*

### Adjournment

*There being no further business before the Committee and hearing no objections, Chairman Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Joseph Heck  
Assistant Director of City Development*