



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final Redevelopment Authority of the City of Racine

*James T. Spangenberg
David Lange
Jim Chambers
Josh Garner
Doug Nicholson
Q.A. Shakoor, II
Robert Anderson*

Monday, August 6, 2012

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 306

Call To Order

PRESENT: 6 - David Lange, Jim Chambers, Josh Garner, Doug Nicholson, Q.A. Shakoor, II and Robert Anderson
EXCUSED: 1 - James T. Spangenberg

Others present:

*Brian O'Connell, Director of City Development
Matthew Sadowski, Interim Director of City Development
Michelle Logan, City Development
Kristin Niemiec, RCEDC
Alderman Greg Holding*

Approval of Minutes for the June 4, 2012 Meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Lange, to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2012. The motion passed by a Voice Vote.

Approval of Minutes for the June 19, 2012 Meeting.

Director O'Connell explained that the minutes of the June 19th meeting were still being worked on and approval would need to be deferred until the next meeting.

[12-7869](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 11th District requesting that the façade grant program be amended to eliminate from consideration businesses that were part of a Business Improvement District for 6 years from the date on which the district was dissolved.

Director O'Connell introduced the request and gave background on the façade grant program and the program's target areas. The question behind the request is that where there was a partnership between the City and the businesses within a Business Improvement District (BID) and the businesses withdrew from the partnership, canceling the BID, should they be able to participate in the façade grant

program.

Alderman Holding further described his request.

*Commissioner Chambers asked what it would mean for new businesses in dissolved
BIDs that may want take advantage of the program.*

*Alderman Holding stated it would affect everyone in that area and it would eliminate
the façade grant for all businesses in that area; that would be something to think
about. He feels that it may be an incentive for areas to form Business Improvement
Districts.*

Commissioner Anderson asked for clarification on the six-year date.

*Alderman Holding explained the six year time period would begin on the date the BID
dissolved.*

*Alderman Holding asked if the façade grant was just available in BID areas. Director
O'Connell explained that it was available to order commercial properties, not only
properties in BIDs.*

*Commissioner Nicholson asked if the façade grant money came from the BID money,
Director O'Connell explained that it was from a separate source.*

*Director O'Connell expressed concern with possibly taking something away from the
dissolved districts that areas with, or without, a BID are eligible for.*

Further discussion ensued.

*Alderman Shakoor, II asked for some follow-up regarding input from others including
the West Racine Professional Association.*

The former West Racine BID is the only BID that has been dissolved.

Action on this item was deferred to allow for further discussion and follow-up.

12-7896

Subject: (Direct Referral) Request from Rev. Buddy O. Vinson and
Mr. Wendell Bowen, representing Trinity United Missionary Baptist
Church, to use Authority-owned land at 1014 Dr. M.L. King Jr. Drive
for a one-day picnic.

*Director O'Connell explained the request. This is the former Homeward Bound site.
Last year, the Authority approved the church's request to use the same area of land
for their picnic, everything went well and staff is recommending approval.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner
Nicholson to approve RDA Resolution 12-08 granting use of Authority-owned
land for a one-day picnic to Trinity United Missionary Baptist Church. The
motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.**

Status report on on-going projects

1130 Washington Avenue

Director O'Connell gave an update on the 1130 Washington Avenue property. Mr. Akil Ajmeri has almost completed everything listed in the option. The next step is to go to the City Plan Commission to finalize the Conditional Use Permit. He stated that there was a change to the original plans; the carwash was removed because the site was too congested.

1418 Washington Avenue

Director O'Connell stated that a 3-month option was given to Jessica Servantes. Some issues arose and the City will have to reinstall the water meter in the building and may have to extend her option.

Other Administrative Business

There will be a walkthrough scheduled for the West Platform/Cruise Inn site.

Joe Heck retired from his position as Assistant Director of City Development; Matthew Sadowski has been named the Interim Assistant Director.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Authority, Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Lange seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.