

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency held its Monthly Caucus Meeting on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at Camden City Hall, 16th Floor, Conference Room, Camden, New Jersey.

Chair Marilyn Torres called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01 PM. Board Clerk Sulena Robinson-Rivera called roll. Commissioner Ramos arrived shortly after roll call.

Present: MT, SD, KH, IL, and JR
Absent: VB
Excused: MS
Attendees: Saundra Ross Johnson, Mark Asselta, Sulena Robinson-Rivera, Johanna Conyer, James Harveson, Olivette Simpson, and Kadeem Pratt CRA; Kelly Francis, Camden County NAACP

Mrs. Robinson-Rivera advised the Board that, pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice(s) had been posted in the Courier-Post, the Philadelphia Inquirer, and the Office of the City Clerk.

Review of Minutes

Dates of Meetings- January 6, and January 13, 2016

Motion: Ayes:

Nays: Abstentions:

Comments: Ms. Torres asked all Commissioners if they had an opportunity to review the minutes. All affirmed. There were no further comments or questions.

Executive Director's Report

Date of Meeting- February 3, 2016

Motion: JR, SD Ayes: MT, SD, KH, IL, JR

Nays: Abstentions:

Comments: Ms. Johnson welcomed, newly appointed CRA Commissioner, Ian K. Leonard and formally introduced him to the CRA staff. She also informed about a question asked of her at the City Council meeting by Councilman Coleman, regarding the board of the letter, dated January 18, 2016, he wrote to the CRA requesting various project related documentation. Director Johnson advised that the CRA's role did not include collection or management of such matters and it is the Mayor's administration that oversees such and will respond accordingly.

Ms. Johnson delivered a 2015 Year End PowerPoint presentation to the Board which covered such topics as current city demographics, unemployment rate, priorities, and the role of the Camden Redevelopment Agency, typical funding sources, protocols for project review, the Business Growth and Development Team (BGDT), 2015 redevelopment projects and an introduction of projects to be undertaken in 2016.

A presentation the CRA made at a Brownfields conference in Chicago will be forwarded to all commissioners. Commissioner Davis asked whether the CRA can gauge the projected number of jobs coming to the City of Camden. Ms. Johnson advised that the city administration and New Jersey Economic Authority (NJEDA) maintain the data related to job creation and retention and will forward those forecasts to all upon receipt from the Administration. Commissioner Ramos asked which of the NJEDA funded projects pay taxes. Mark Asselta advised that each project has a tax obligation, albeit, in various forms and/or intervals.

Resolutions for Review and Action

02-10-16A Resolution Authorizing the Grant to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority of a Deed Restriction for Recreation /Conservation on Property Designated as Block 62 Lots 38 and 45 on the City of Camden Tax Map and Located in the Downtown Redevelopment Area.

Motion: Ayes:
Nays: Abstentions:

There were no questions or comments.

02-10-16B Resolution Authorizing An Acknowledgement of an Agreement between the Delaware River Port Authority the County of Camden and the Camden County Municipal Utility Authority Regarding the Transfer of Properties for the Gateway Park Project

Motion: Ayes:
Nays: Abstentions:

There were no questions or comments.

02-10-16C Resolution Amending Resolution 01-13-16E Which Designated Parkside Urban Renewal LLC as Redeveloper of Certain Tax Lots By Increasing the Number of Housing Units and Project Site to be Redeveloped and Authorizing an Option Agreement and Redevelopment Agreement with the Redeveloper for Such Additional Properties

Motion: Ayes:
Nays: Abstentions:

There were no questions or comments.

Public Comments

Kelly Francis inquired regarding the number of waterfront linear miles in the City of Camden. Ms. Johnson confirmed that the City of Camden has 16 linear miles of waterfront.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Chairperson's Remarks and Observations

Ms. Torres distributed the consolidated 2015 attendance record for the commissioners. She stressed the value of the in person presence and participation at every meeting. She thanked all for attending and for all the good work.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

This meeting adjourned at approximately 7:03 PM on a motion made by Commissioner Leonard and seconded by Commissioner Hagamin.

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