

APPROVED

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD MEETING May 11, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR
100 N. ANDREWS AVENUE

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Board Members</u> <u>Cumulative</u> <u>From 10/09</u>	
			<u>(P)</u>	<u>(A)</u>
Marjorie Davis		A	0	7
William Goetz		A	6	1
Michael Kimmey	P		6	1
Avery Dial	P		7	0
Margaret Birch	P		6	1
Emmett Kater	P		5	2
P.J. Espinal	P		6	1
David Maymon	P		7	0
Christopher Priestler	P		5	2
James Currier	P		7	0
Nadia Locke	P		6	1
Kevin Hull	P		4	3
Donald Karney	P		7	0
Helen Hinton	P		2	0
Carmelita Singh-Mayor		A	0	1

Staff Present:

Angelia Basto, Administrative Support
Susan Batchelder, Assistant Community Development Manager
Stephen Scott, Director of Economic Development
David Harvey, Monitoring and Compliance Officer

Margaret A. Muhl, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chair David Maymon called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m., and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

Ms. Batchelder advised that as of May 11, 2009, there were 14 appointed members of the Board, and therefore, 8 members would constitute a quorum. A quorum was present this evening.

Communications to City Commission

Ms. Espinal stated that she heard the Mayor on the radio and was supportive of the Commission's goals.

Mr. Kater stated that he did not have to abstain from voting on the award of CDBG grant money to Jack and Jill because he had been advised that he did not have a conflict of interest.

Chair David Maymon stated that Ms. Birch was upset based on staff's memorandum regarding the top six organizations. If the Commission accepts staff's recommendation, the Board's work this evening would be moot. He wants to make sure that the Commission understands that this Board, as a collective group, voted tonight based on their feelings and experiences as to what organizations should be awarded funds. Therefore, this Board hopes the Commission would take all of this into consideration before making their decision. He also understands Ms. Batchelder's comments regarding staff's recommendations so the monies would be used effectively.

Ms. Birch said that she was sorry Mr. Brown was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

Ms. Batchelder reminded the Board that they have been appointed by the Commission, and the stewardship of the funds are in this Board's hands. She just wants the Board to be aware of all the work associated with these funds. It is important that everyone work together.

Board and Staff Introductions

Ms. Batchelder proceeded to introduce staff that was present at tonight's meeting.

Approval of Minutes

April 13, 2009

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Mr. Currier to approve the minutes of April 13, 2009.

Mr. Priester and Mr. Dial entered the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Cultural Arts and Tourism

Stephen Scott, Director of Economic Development, proceeded to distribute a tourism report that was presented to the City Commission in April, 2009. One of the first charges he received from the new appointed Commission was to provide them periodic reports regarding tourism in the city. Therefore, he prepared a report that covered tourism through the month of February, 2009. He will continue to provide this Board with such reports. Occupancy at that time in the city was down 4%, and throughout the State of Florida it was down 14%. Average daily rates being charged were down between 12% and 18%. The daily rates in the State of Florida were down 21%.

Mr. Scott continued stating that Broward County led the State in occupancy rates for the month of January, and were second for the month of February. The Florida Keyes were #1. Tourism was being impacted by the present state of today's economy.

Mr. Kater asked if groups were given a reduction for bringing their organizations to the city for conventions. Mr. Scott stated that such perks were not provided, and explained that the Convention and Visitors Bureau lured groups to the city, but did not provide monetary incentives. They did negotiate better rates for the hotels and arranged transportation. Mr. Kater asked to meet with Mr. Scott to discuss some tourism issues.

Mr. Scott stated that the Mayor suggested they look into the possibility of amending the city's open container provision allowing individuals in entertainment areas to carry plastic cups during special events encouraging a more friendly attitude. The City Attorney is presently researching the issue.

Mr. Scott asked for the Board's direction regarding visitation of the Dillard Museum because they were only open until 4:30 p.m. He stated that there were alternative sites available for the Board to consider, and for the Board to contact him at a later date regarding the matter.

Chair David Maymon stated that cultural issues would be discussed further at the next meeting since the Board had been focused on the CDBG grants for their last two meetings.

CDBG Rankings

Ms. Batchelder stated that the Board received staff's recommendations regarding the Board's scoring and the CDBG awards. Restrictions were placed on the applications this year in order to bring the applicants into a range that would be manageable by staff. Monitoring and compliance is a major issue.

Chair David Maymon explained that staff took the top six of each category, divided the monies available, and made the distribution. He asked the Board if they wanted to grant the awards as they had done last year, which was basically to go down the list of the Board's rankings and decide on the amount of the awards.

Mr. Kimmey explained that last year they took the numbers from the highest to the lowest, and proceeded to provide some examples. Categories were not used in last year's process.

Chair David Maymon suggested that they use the highest ranking and work down the list as done in the past.

Mr. Kater stated that he felt using the categories would be a better way to make the awards.

Ms. Espinal stated that using the categories left out many of the applicants. She agreed for the Board to follow how the awards were done in the past as suggested by Mr. Kimmey.

Ms. Batchelder reiterated that staff's recommendations were marked on the sheets distributed.

Ms. Birch congratulated staff for making an attempt to provide an idea as to how the funds could be distributed. She noted that \$10,000 was suggested as a minimum to be awarded. She feels that the ranking sheets were not designed to show need, but designed to determine how well the grant had been written. She felt the Board's priority should be to review the organizations in dire need regardless of their placement, along with reviewing their financial resources. Personally, by being handed the sheets with staff's recommendations, she felt she had wasted her time in doing the rankings.

Ms. Batchelder explained that the sheet was based on the Board's rankings. Ms. Birch reiterated that the rankings did not have a relationship to need. Ms. Espinal stated that she also wanted organizations to receive funds that were in need and had limited resources, but she also realizes that the way staff made their recommendations it supplied opportunity for the Board to apply some heart. Chair David Maymon stated that the procedure for making the awards would be the same as last year.

Mr. Kater asked if the procedure could be voted upon. Chair David Maymon asked for further clarification from Mr. Kater. Mr. Kater explained that the data provided by staff was based on the Board's rankings. Mr. Dial provided some further explanation regarding the process. Data was basically the same, but organized differently.

Chair David Maymon advised that he did not believe a vote needed to be taken since staff was just making recommendations.

Motion made by Mr. Kater to accept the report provided by staff based on the Board's rankings. Motion died for lack of a second.

Chair David Maymon referred to the list provided, and explained that they would begin with the applicant receiving the highest ranking.

Cross Road Food Bank

Their scoring was 99.31 and had requested \$49,200. Last year, they were awarded \$24,500.

Ms. Batchelder explained that according to HUD's Regulations, they could not grant a returning agency more than what they had been granted in the previous year.

Motion made by Mr. Kimmey and seconded by Mr. Hull to grant Cross Road Food Bank \$24,500.

Ms. Batchelder advised that the total monies available this year was \$230,484.40.

Motion carried 10-2. (Mr. Kater and Ms. Birch voted against.)

Lighthouse For The Blind

Their scoring was 96.92, and last year had been awarded \$10,000. This year they were requesting \$10,000.

Motion made by Mr. Priester and seconded by Ms. Birch to award Lighthouse For the Blind the amount of \$10,000. Board unanimously approved.

Jack & Jill Children's Center

Their scoring was 93.23, and last year had been awarded \$50,740. This year they were requesting \$50,000.

Ms. Espinal stated that this center had many resources for funding, and therefore, she recommends that they award \$20,000 leaving more monies available for some of the smaller organizations.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal and seconded by Mr. Currier that Jack & Jill Children's Center be awarded \$20,000. Motion carried 9-3 (Ms. Locke, Mr. Dial and Mr. Kater voted against.)

Chair David Maymon explained that by way of a motion the Board could go back and amend the awards granted.

Broward Homebound Program

This organization was ranked 93.08, and had been awarded \$13,944 last year. This year they were requesting \$30,420.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal and seconded by Mr. Priester to award Broward Homebound Program \$13,944. Board unanimously approved.

It was asked if the applicants had been made aware that awards could not be granted in amounts larger than what the organizations had received previously. Ms. Batchelder stated that such information could be provided to the applicants next year.

Ms. Hinton asked if some of the organizations would be able to continue their programs if the requested funds were not granted in full. She feels at a disadvantage since she did not have the grants in front of her to make a comparison. She asked by granting smaller amounts of money were they asking the organizations to adjust their budgets or programs.

Mr. Kimmey stated that he believed the award could be denied if the organization did not feel the amount granted to them would assist them in conducting their program.

He further stated that the organizations had to show how their funds were being spent.

Ms. Espinal suggested that the grants could be rechecked once all the awards were made because if the funds could not be used by that organization, they could be reallocated.

Broward Partnership for the Homeless.

This organization was ranked 91.00, and last year had not been awarded any funds. This year they are requesting \$49,896.00.

Ms. Batchelder explained that since no funds were awarded to this organization last year, any amount could be designated this year.

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Mr. Dial to grant Broward Partnership For The Homeless \$20,000. Motion carried 9-3. (Mr. Hull, Ms. Birch, and Mr. Currier voted against.)

First Call For Help

This organization scored 90.31, and last year had been awarded \$25,000. This year they were requesting \$50,000.

Ms. Espinal stated this organization has many other resources.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal and seconded by Ms. Birch to award First Call For Help \$10,000. Board unanimously approved.

Covenant House

This organization ranked 89.92, and last year they were awarded \$29,094. This year they were requesting \$50,000.

Motion made by Mr. Kimmey and seconded by Ms. Espinal to grant Covenant House \$25,000. Motion failed by a vote of 6-6. (Mr. Kater, Mr. Dial, Mr. Karney, Mr. Hull, Ms. Birch and Mr. Priester voted against.)

Mr. Dial stated that organizations that were self-supportive and had other resources available to them should be awarded less monies.

Motion made by Mr. Hull and seconded by Mr. Currier to award Covenant House \$20,000. Motion carried 7-5. (Mr. Maymon, Ms. Espinal, Mr. Kater, Mr. Priester and Mr. Karney voted against.)

Safe Water Instruction Means Safety (S.W.I.M.S.)

This organization was ranked at 88.62, and last year they did not receive any funds. This year they were requesting \$50,000.

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Mr. Currier to award S.W.I.M.S. the amount of \$25,000.

Ms. Hinton stated that it was her understanding that this group was only requesting \$25,000.

Mr. Dial stated that this group was lower on the list, and if the Board wants to award more equal funding, he felt they should not receive more money than groups higher up on the list.

Motion failed by a vote of 1-11. (All Board Members, except one, voted against the motion.)

Motion made by Ms. Birch and seconded by Ms. Espinal to award S.W.I.M.S. \$10,000.

Mr. Currier stated that there was still the need to save lives and this is an important program. He did not feel that \$10,000 was sufficient, and suggested that they be granted between \$10,000 and \$25,000. He stated there should be some exception to the ranking by numbers, and more thought be put into the need and saving of lives.

Ms. Espinal stated that this was a big program and the organization did have other resources, and there were a lot of problems throughout the City.

Ms. Locke stated that since they taught the kindergarten age children, she asked if they had a contract with the School Board. Ms. Birch stated that she believes the School Board provides transportation or subsidizes the program. Also, private nurseries participate in the program. Therefore, she did not feel the program would suffer if the \$25,000 was not awarded to them.

Motion failed 6-6. (Ms. Lock, Mr. Karney, Mr. Kater, Mr. Hull, Mr. Currier, and Mr. Priester voted against.)

Motion made by Mr. Kater to award S.W.I.M.S. \$22,000. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Mr. Currier and seconded by Ms. Birch to award S.W.I.M.S. \$15,000. Motion carried 8-4. (Mr. Kater, Ms. Espinal, Mr. Karney, and Ms. Locke voted against.)

Second Chance Society

This organization ranked 83.77, and last year they were not awarded any funds. This year they are requesting \$45,182.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal and seconded by Mr. Kimmey to award Second Chance Society \$25,000. Motion failed. (No results were stated.)

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Mr. Hull to award Second Chance Society \$15,000.

Ms. Espinal stated that this organization had a need, and they had a limited amount of resources. She believed they should be awarded at least 50% of their request. Mr. Dial stated that he ranked this organization very high.

Motion failed with a vote of 6-6.

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Ms. Birch to award Second Chance Society \$20,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Women In Distress

This organization was ranked 83.38, and last year they were awarded \$20,000. This year they are requesting \$38,100.

Mr. Kater stated that he felt this organization had many resources, and he did not feel that any monies should be awarded to them.

Chair David Maymon stated that, in his opinion, their presentation was not very good. He believed it was stated that they were moving their offices out of Fort Lauderdale, and the representative did not appear to be able to state how the residents of this City would benefit from their organization. Therefore, he did not feel this group should be awarded any monies.

Ms. Hinton stated that it did not appear that they would remain in this City.

Ms. Birch suggested that this organization be put at the end of the list, and then it could be revisited.

Motion made by Ms. Birch and seconded by Mr. Currier to move this organization to the end of the list, and then possibly revisit granting them an award. Motion carried 10-2. (Ms. Hinton and Mr. Kater voted against.)

Chair David Maymon asked if staff could provide a calculation as to how much money had been awarded up to this point. He believes that roughly they had granted about \$155,000 so far.

Ms. Batchelder advised that there was about \$77,000 remaining to be awarded. She stressed that by dividing the amounts as small as they were doing would cause a problem for the HCD office regarding monitoring and compliance. She realizes that need is very important to everyone, but in some cases the applications show not only need but capacity of the organization to utilize the funds to the fullest benefit. This is why staff attempts to limit the amounts applied for, and the number of recipients. This makes the most of the money that is available. She added that some municipalities only award funds to the top three groups, and this City is the only municipality that she is aware of that divides the monies up among many recipients.

Chair David Maymon stated that Ms. Batchelder has offered some information to be considered. He stated that possibly they grant an award to only 10 recipients.

Mr. Kimmey stated that so far they have allocated funds to nine organizations. Therefore, he feels they should go back and revisit the awards made, and allocate the remaining funds.

Chair David Maymon asked if there were any organizations on the list that Board Members might want to have considered for an award.

Mr. Priester stated the rankings should not determine the amount of funds granted to the organization. Now, this situation is turning into a personal opinion. Therefore, they need to arrive at a system to divide the monies between the organizations. He stated that Russell Life Skills & Reading Education and Mount Olive Development Corporation should be considered for an award.

Ms. Birch stated they needed to find time to discuss Community Voicemail which comes under the Coalition To End Homelessness because it is important, and provides voicemail to low income people giving them ability to access job opportunities and healthcare information. The other group she would like to have considered was Russell Life Skills & Reading Education because she knows what good that organization has achieved at Osswald Park.

Mr. Currier stated his personal preference was also the Russell Life Skills program because communication was important. The other group to consider should be the Community Voicemail because it helps individuals secure jobs.

Mr. Hull agreed that Russell Life Skills program should be considered.

Mr. Kimmey agreed that Coalition To End Homelessness should be considered.

Chair David Maymon agreed that the Russell Life Skills program should be reviewed.

Ms. Espinal stated that H.O.M.E.S. Inc. should be considered due to the Foster Childcare Program they offer.

Mr. Kater stated that if they had followed staff's recommendations, a lot of problems could have been avoided. His personal preference for consideration would be the City of Fort Lauderdale, Mount Olive Development Corporation, and Aspira of Florida, Inc.

Mr. Karney stated that, in his opinion, some of the funds already granted should be reduced or not granted at all.

Ms. Locke stated that Aspira and the Girl Scouts provide an opportunity to individuals who might not otherwise be able to participate in such groups.

Mr. Dial stated that even though staff's classifications had been rejected, he pointed out that in the top nine every category has been represented with the exception of

the housing counseling program. He feels it would be prudent to grant funds to the top-ranked housing program due to the present state of today's economy, which would be the Urban League of Broward County.

Ms. Hinton stated that New Visions also deals with the housing crisis, and she feels it is urgent today to consider Russell Life Skills, along with Senior Volunteer Services. She added that during the Girl Scouts presentation communities were mentioned that she is familiar with, and she has not seen any participants of that program in those areas for a very long time.

Ms. Birch further stated that New Visions has an established record and has a top-notch counseling program which has been very successful. She added that one of the objectives of H.O.M.E.S., Inc. was to find housing for kids leaving foster care at the age of 18. She stated that this organization and SOS Village were the only groups providing such a service in the community.

Mr. Dial suggested that they support New Visions who provides some of the same types of services as being mentioned.

Chair David Maymon clarified that from #11 down on the list, the Board ranked the organizations that should be considered. He proceeded to advise the Board on how many votes each organization received. He suggested on eliminating the organizations that were not mentioned for consideration. Those groups would be #15, #16, and #18. He asked the Board if they also wanted to eliminate the groups only receiving one vote.

Motion made by Mr. Priester and seconded by Mr. Hull to remove all organizations that were not listed by the Board for consideration, along with the groups only receiving one vote.

Chair David Maymon suggested that groups be eliminated without a motion to make things easier.

Further clarification was made regarding organizations that had been mentioned for consideration.

Mr. Kater suggested that the Board not revisit Women in Distress.

Ms. Hinton withdrew her suggestion of considering Senior Volunteer Services.

Chair David Maymon advised the Board to remove #14, #10, #21, and #22.

H.O.M.E.S., Inc.

Ms. Birch stated that part of their request was to help children leaving foster homes when they reach the age of 18. She added that their objectives addressed something entirely different in their application.

Chair David Maymon advised that this organization was requesting \$30,000, and no award had been granted last year.

Ms. Espinal stated that it was her understanding that the program provides outreach and other services to low and moderate income individuals, along with assistance to foster care children.

Ms. Birch asked if it was part of this organization's grant to assist foster care children 18 years of age and over.

Linda Taylor stated that she represents H.O.M.E.S., Inc., and clarified that their program provided financial literacy and case management to extremely low and moderate income individuals, specifically children who have aged out of foster care.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal to award H.O.M.E.S., Inc. the amount of \$20,000. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Ms. Birch and seconded by Ms. Espinal to award H.O.M.E.S., Inc. \$15,000. Motion failed 3-9.

Ms. Hinton suggested that they continue with the process of elimination.

Mr. Kater stated that he believed the City of Fort Lauderdale should be given an award. Ms. Espinal agreed because the City was keeping kids off the streets and serving its residents.

Chair David Maymon stated that Russell Life Skills was ranked with six votes. Last year, this group was awarded \$17,540.50.

Motion made by Mr. Priester and seconded by Mr. Hull to award Russell Life Skills & Reading Education the amount of \$17,540.50. Motion carried 10-2. (Ms. Espinal and Mr. Kimmey voted against.)

Chair David Maymon stated that he felt they would be doing groups such as Russell Life Skills more justice by not granting them an award because they were requesting \$35,000. If HUD does not change their regulations, the most that could be awarded would be \$17,540.50.

It was stated that the available funds would probably be less next year, and therefore, the applicants need to begin looking for other resources.

Ms. Batchelder advised the Board that the applicants could not receive funds after getting an award three years in a row. They would not be eligible to apply for one year, and then they could reapply. She reiterated that the purpose of these funds was to build capacity for these organizations to get up and moving.

Ms. Espinal explained that some of the programs change their names and then keep reapplying.

Mr. Kater suggested that the figures be awarded in round numbers to make it easier, and therefore, he offered a new motion regarding Russell Life Skills.

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Ms. Espinal to award Russell Life Skills & Reading Education the amount of \$17,540.00. Motion failed with only Ms. Espinal and Ms. Birch voting in favor. The remaining Board Members voted against the motion. Therefore, the original award of \$17,540.50 stands.

New Visions Community Development Corporation

Last year this organization was not awarded any funds. This year they are requesting \$50,000.

Motion made by Ms. Birch and seconded by Ms. Hinton to award New Visions the amount of \$25,000.

Ms. Espinal said that she believes Mount Olive Development Corporation would be a better use of these funds.

Motion failed.

Motion made by Mr. Dial and seconded by Ms. Birch to grant New Visions Community Development Corporation the amount of \$20,000.

Mr. Kater stated that he did not feel this program warranted that amount of money.

Motion failed. The vote was 6-6.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal and seconded by Mr. Dial that no monies be awarded to New Visions Community Development Corporation. Motion failed with a vote of 6-6.

Mr. Kimmey reiterated that it was important to award monies to fewer organizations so they could continue with their programs, than trying to divide the monies between more groups.

Ms. Espinal reminded everyone that Mount Olive Development Corporation was only requesting \$32,000 and had more tangible results.

Motion made by Chair David Maymon and seconded by Ms. Espinal to not award any monies to New Visions Community Development Corporation. Motion failed again with a vote of 6-6.

Chair David Maymon said they need to look at awarding these funds from a more global perspective.

Mr. Priester said that now the Board is making judgment on what programs were important and reiterating their personal preferences. A decision needs to be made regarding how to award the remaining funds between the five organizations left.

Motion made by Mr. Hull and seconded by Ms. Locke to limit the number to 10 organizations that would receive awards. So far 10 organizations have been awarded monies. Motion failed with a vote of 4-8.

Motion made by Chair David Maymon and seconded by Ms. Espinal to not award New Visions Development Corporation any funds this year. Motion failed.

Ms. Locke said they need to revisit the programs presented and see if they would benefit from the monies being awarded. She reiterated that it would be difficult for staff to monitor the awards as being granted.

Ms. Birch stated that on the applications a question was asked of the applicants as to whether they would be able to move forward with their program if the full amount they were requesting was not granted. The applicants answered yes, and explained that they would simply have to scale back their programs. She would assume that New Visions would be satisfied with any amount granted to them.

Motion made by Ms. Locke and seconded by Ms. Birch that New Visions Development Corporation be granted the amount of \$18,500.

Ms. Espinal suggested that \$4,500 be taken from the award given to Cross Road Food Bank and distributed somewhere else.

Motion carried 7-5.

Motion made by Mr. Currier and seconded by Mr. Dial to limit the awards to 12 organizations. Motion carried 11-1.

Therefore, the Board now needs to decide which organization would be included as the last one that monies would be awarded to making the total number of 12 organizations receiving grants.

Motion made by Mr. Kater to include Mount Olive Development Corporation.

Ms. Birch said that the Coalition to End Homelessness is a program that addresses community voicemail. She believes that information needs to be clarified more in next year's presentations and applications.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Chair David Maymon proceeded to have the Board choose an organization they preferred from the group previously chosen, and afterwards they could see if there was a majority decision regarding any one organization. The Board decided to discuss an award for Coalition To End Homelessness as the 12th organization.

Motion made by Mr. Kater to grant the amount of funds remaining to the Coalition To End Homelessness.

Chair David Maymon advised that the Coalition requested \$35,000.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. Batchelder asked for a recap of the organizations that had been granted awards, along with the amounts. She then advised that a total of \$209,848.50 had been awarded so far. The remaining amount to award was \$20,635.90.

Motion made by Mr. Kater and seconded by Mr. Kimmey to award the amount of \$20,635.90 to the Coalition To End Homelessness. Motion carried 9-3.

MEETING RECESSED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:53 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED AT APPROXIMATELY 9:00 P.M.

Ms. Batchelder stated that there still remains \$20,364.00 to award.

It was suggested that the Board review the 12 organizations that were to receive funds, and see if monies could be added to their awards taking them closer to the amount originally requested.

Mr. Priester suggested that they review all the organizations.

Motion made by Mr. Priester and seconded by Ms. Espinal to review all the monies already awarded, and make final judgment among the 12 organizations chosen. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Batchelder advised the Board that organizations numbered 1, 2, 4 and 12 were maxed out in accordance with the awards granted last year.

Jack 'n Jill Children's Center

The Board awarded \$20,000 to this organization this year, and last year had awarded them \$57,000. The applicant made a request for \$50,000.

Motion made by Ms. Espinal to not grant any funds to this organization because they have other resources available to them. Motion died for lack of a second.

Chair David Maymon reiterated that the Board needed to clarify whether they wanted to alter the original amount awarded to this organization.

Motion made by Chair David Maymon and seconded by Mr. Hull to leave the amounts already earmarked for each organization, and only reassess an increase. Motion carried 10-2.

Motion made by Mr. Priester and seconded by Mr. Currier that the remaining monies be divided by 8 and awarded to the eligible organizations.

Ms. Espinal said the remaining funds would almost fund the latchkey program for the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation.

Motion carried 10-1. (Ms. Espinal voted against the motion. Ms. Birch was absent during the vote.)

Motion made by Ms. Espinal to reassess the numbers already awarded.

Ms. Birch rejoined the meeting at approximately 9:10 p.m. A recap was provided to her regarding the proceedings of the meeting during her absence.

Ms. Espinal reiterated that if they reassessed the awards, they could round off the numbers and the amounts removed could possibly fund another organization.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Ms. Hinton and seconded by Mr. Currier to leave the rankings as stated. Motion carried 11-1. (Ms. Espinal voted against the motion.)

Other Business

Chair David Maymon reminded everyone that since the CDBG monies had been awarded, the Board needed to focus back on the cultural arts aspect of their duties. He instructed the Board to consider what other site they wanted to visit, and how they could increase tourism.

Ms. Birch suggested that they see what activities the Dillard Museum might be scheduling for the future. She asked what information would be presented to the City Commission regarding the awards made this evening.

Ms. Batchelder said that this Board's recommendations would be presented to the City Commission in a memorandum prepared by staff. The HCD office would make another recommendation to only fund the top six organizations. The Commission would decide how to grant the funds.

Mr. Priester stated that companies need to make presentations to this Board so they could approve someone to represent the City in regard to cultural events.

Ms. Espinal asked for the Board to come back and work on the criteria for the CDBG awards, including the ranking sheets.

Mr. Kater stated that a letter should be sent to the Superintendent of Schools or to the area Superintendent regarding their visitation to Dillard School.

Ms. Birch said they should just go to the school and discuss the matter with them. Chair David Maymon suggested that Ms. Birch handle this matter for the Board.

Good of the Order

Nothing was discussed.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting. Board unanimously approved.

There being no other business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Muhl,
Recording Secretary