

APPROVED
City of Fort Lauderdale
Community Services Board
November 14, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.
City Commission Chambers, City Hall
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

MEMBERS		OCT 2011/SEPT 2012	
		PRESENT	ABSENT
Donald Karney, Chair	P	2	0
Richard Whipple, Vice Chair	P	2	0
Erika Baer	A	0	2
Margaret Birch	P	2	0
Earl Bosworth	P	2	0
James Currier	A	1	1
Wendy Gonsler	P	1	1
Helen Hinton	P	2	0
Jeannine Richards	P	2	0
Jasmin Shirley	P	1	1
Kenneth Staab	P	2	0
David Tilbury (arr. 7:08)	P	1	1

Staff Present:

Jonathan Brown, Manager, Housing and Community Development
 Karen Reese, Economic Development Representative
 Denise Greenstein, Administrative Aide, Housing and Community Development
 Jeri Pryor, Federal Grants Administrator, Housing and Community Development
 Skip Margerum, Code Enforcement
 Amanda Lebofsky, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to City Commission

Motion by Vice Chair Whipple, seconded by Ms. Birch, that the Board request the board's purpose to include acting as the advisory on the Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) grant activities and to re-assign cultural arts and tourism to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- **Quorum Requirement**

As of November 14, 2011, there are 12 appointed members to the Board, which means 7 members constitute a quorum.

Chair Donald Karney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken by Ms. Lebofsky and it was determined a quorum was present.

II. WELCOME AND BOARD/STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Jeri Pryor, the new Staff Liaison, introduced herself. She noted that the meeting next month will be at 4:00 p.m., rather than 7:00 p.m.

All staff and guests introduced themselves.

III. CITY COMMISSION NEWS

Mr. Brown reported that the City Commission is looking forward to having the Chair and Vice Chair at their meeting on the next day. Vice Chair Whipple noted he may be late, as he has a schedule conflict. Ms. Gonsler stated she would be there.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES SUMMARY – October 10, 2011

Motion by Vice Chair Whipple, seconded by Ms. Richards, to approve the minutes as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

V. CULTURAL ARTS & TOURISM REPORT

Ms. Reese introduced Ms. Casteel to give an update. She noted that Ms. Casteel brought two videos on Stranahan House which the Board can sign out and take home for viewing.

- **Sandy Casteel – Stranahan House**

Ms. Casteel reported that this year about 25% of the fourth graders in Broward County will visit the House as part of the State education process on local history.

Ms. Casteel detailed the history of Frank and Ivy Stranahan, beginning in 1865. Frank established a trading business with the Seminole Indians and became the postmaster. After their marriage, Ivy began teaching the Seminole children. In 1901, Frank built the structure presently on the site, including a trading post and community hall. In 1910, the structure was renovated as a residence.

[Mr. Tilbury arrived at 7:08 p.m.]

The Stranahans were very active in community efforts. After their deaths, their former house was placed on the National Registry, and was purchased by the Historical Society in 1975. The restored house was open to the public in 1984.

Ms. Casteel displayed several photos of the Stranahans, the house and its furnishings, and encouraged the Board members to read the book about them.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

- **Review Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity Applications**

Mr. Margerum said he had three applications for review.

The first was Tamilou Incorporated, a new application, requesting 10 chauffeur type vehicles. Louis Vincze, a corporate pilot representing the company, said he wants to form a limousine company to complement the other companies now in business.

Mr. Margerum directed the Board's attention to p. 2 of the application, where it was noted that Tamilou is a standard stretch Lincoln limousine. He said they are asking for ten, but there is no requirement for how many are on the road at a given time (but it could not be for more than ten). Mr. Vincze said they have one now on a commercial certificate, and a second one is in progress.

Mr. Staab asked for the vehicle location, and Mr. Vincze responded that they have contract drivers in Pompano Beach or possibly Hollywood. The mailing address is Fort Lauderdale, where they want to operate. Mr. Margerum explained that Fort Lauderdale is the only City that requires the company to appear before this type of Board.

Mr. Staab also asked about financial documents. Mr. Vincze said that he has the bank statement with him, but they have not started financial statements yet, because they are not fully operational. Chair Karney asked what their primary focus in Fort Lauderdale would be, and Mr. Vincze answered it would be corporate drop-offs to and from the airport.

Motion by Ms. Gonsler, seconded by Mr. Tilbury, to approve the application for licensure in Fort Lauderdale as it stands. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Margerum continued to the next application for EZ Shuttles. He said this company is unique as it uses an electric vehicle, seating six individuals. One is currently operating, and the company wants eight altogether.

Gregory Baum, of EZ Shuttles, distributed a photo of a shuttle. He is proposing an environmentally conscious service (a shuttle/electric car that seats six) for the people of the City and for tourism. He wants to provide service for areas such as Las Olas and A1A, and the hotel areas. He said the cars are made by Chrysler and people "love them." He assured the Board that it would not affect the existing modes of transportation, since it only seats six.

He claimed that electric transportation is a step towards moving toward the future for the City. He wants to put eight cars on the road in Fort Lauderdale, charging \$3 a ride. Mr. Baum said another company was just approved in Fort Lauderdale, called Eco-Cabs. He said he has two ready to go now and is prepared to take on eight in the future.

Ms. Gonsler asked about the fare, and Mr. Baum said people will pay \$3 to "hop on" the shuttle. He said he will have set routes and will hand out flyers. Regarding battery charging, he said the cars only get 40 miles to a charge, so they can only run for three or four hours, necessitating switching out cars during charging. Ms. Gonsler asked where he would be charging the cars and he said it would be at various locations, such as the driver's garages.

Mr. Bosworth asked Mr. Baum if he had looked into the County requirements, noting that Mr. Baum would be competing with taxis. Mr. Baum responded that he has not spoken with them yet, and said that type of vehicle is "already on the road." He said he would be contacting the County regarding permits and ordinances.

Vice Chair Whipple asked if City staff engineering has any say in how many of these vehicles should be on the road, and Mr. Margerum stated that they do not.

Mr. Margerum pointed out that on p. 2 of the application, there are several alternatives for charges, and asked that the Board address one or another in the motion.

Ms. Gonsler asked how he would make money, and Mr. Baum said he planned to do "lots of advertising." He added that he did not want to ruin Eco-Cabs' business. He added that the cars are legal road vehicles, and they have to be on roads that are posted 35 mph or less.

Mr. Staab asked about the Post Office address, and Mr. Margerum confirmed that a Post Office Box is satisfactory for the City's mailing purposes. Mr. Staab wondered if there were any prohibitions concerning advertising, and Mr. Margerum said he spoke to Mr. Baum about that and stated that he cannot advertise at the moment on any vehicles. He would have to approach the City Commission at a future date if he wants to change that.

Regarding where the vehicles would be kept, Mr. Margerum assured the Board that storing the vehicles at a driver's garage is satisfactory with the City, as that type of vehicle is not considered a commercial vehicle.

Ms. Gonsler wondered why buses were allowed to advertise, and Mr. Margerum said that there is an exception in the ordinance for buses and taxis. Rickshaws and the type of vehicle being considered are only allowed to advertise their own business.

Vice Chair Whipple thought if they approve the application, then the City Commission would bring up the advertising issue. Mr. Margerum said that Mr. Brown understands that advertising is not allowed now, but would like to try to change that at a future time.

Motion by Ms. Gonsher, seconded by Mr. Tilbury, to approve the application with the understanding that the fee for ridership will be \$3.00 per person per trip. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Margerum noted that the third application was for Lane Billingsley, Lanes and Limos, and he said that Mr. Billingsley was unable to attend. The company currently has a business tax with the City, and wants to add a 2004 GMC Yukon Denali. He added that there is no negative history with the company.

Mr. Staab asked if Mr. Margerum was satisfied with his formal service address, and he said he was.

Ms. Shirley wondered if he would be operating in Broward or Palm Beach, and Mr. Margerum said it would be in Broward. Mr. Margerum thought he currently had four vehicles in service.

Ms. Hinton was curious if there was a restriction as to the age of the vehicle, and Mr. Margerum said such a restriction only applies to taxis, which can be no older than five years.

Motion by Mr. Tilbury, seconded by Vice Chair Whipple, to approve the application with the addition of one 2004 GMC Yukon Denali. In a roll call vote, the motion passed (5-4) as follows: Ms. Birch, yes; Ms. Bosworth, no; Ms. Gonsher, no; Ms. Hinton, no; Ms. Richards, yes; Ms. Shirley, no; Mr. Staab, yes; Mr. Tilbury, yes; Vice Chair Whipple, yes.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION (not addressed at this time)

VIII. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS Discussion:

- **Expand duties and membership of CSB to include Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) grant**

Ms. Pryor noted that starting on the next meeting's agenda, the Communications to City Commission will be placed at the end of the agenda.

Mr. Pryor said that she is also the Program Administrator for the HOPWA program. It is a county-wide program, but the majority of the clients reside in Fort Lauderdale.

There is a grant available each year for \$9.3M, the largest housing grant that the City receives annually. Because of its size, Ms. Pryor said that she and Mr. Brown are looking forward to having an advisory board as part of the HOPWA Program. She said

the processes that the Community Services Board goes through with the HUD grants are similar to the processes involved in the HOPWA grant, although that is on a larger monetary scale and is an RFP process. After discussions with the City Manager's Office, staff recommended using the CSB to serve as the advisory board for the HOPWA program. Ms. Pryor said the City Commission discussed using the CSB as the HOPWA Board, and they were in agreement, but wanted the opinion of the CSB.

Ms. Pryor said they have eight providers that they issue funding to, and it will be more work for the Board. Typically, the same providers are involved each year.

She continued that staff has asked the City Commission to designate three seats on the Board for people who meet certain criteria. The first seat will be for somebody from the Ryan White program in Broward County (providing health care for persons with HIV/AIDS); the second one for a representative from one of the housing authorities in Broward County; the third position would be for a person with HIV/AIDS who is not affiliated. She emphasized that would be one of the most important seats on the Board, as they are representative of the services the City is trying to provide through the HOPWA program.

Ms. Pryor said that this will be the last meeting where Cultural Arts and Tourism is discussed. Cultural Arts and Tourism is being transferred to another board.

Mr. Brown said that the City Commission had some reservations related to privacy about the selection of the PWA (Person with AIDS) representative. There will be an ordinance change to add the HOPWA program to the Board. Mr. Brown also clarified that the reason the City Manager recommended moving the Cultural Arts and Tourism responsibilities was because he thought it was better suited to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Ms. Gonsler wondered if the three added positions would be standing members of this Board. Mr. Brown clarified that currently the Community Services Board is a 16-member Board (with three current vacancies). The vacant positions would be the ones changed, but the City Commission wanted to reduce the Board to a total of 15 members.

Ms. Gonsler remarked that the applicants applying for the CDBG grants service are mostly the residents of Fort Lauderdale, and this Board has been cognizant of the focus on the residents of the City. She wondered if there would be a conflict for the City if the new members do not have that focus with the CDBG grants (because they may represent other cities). Mr. Brown stated that it is not known whether the City Commission will appoint individuals who reside out of the City limits or not. Ms. Shirley remarked that this particular grant is not just to serve residents of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Mr. Brown reported that they held a public meeting on HOPWA in June 2011, and it was the public and HOPWA agencies that requested a committee. Ms. Shirley pointed out that every Federal opportunity has to have 51% consumer participation, which would make this Committee unusual. Ms. Pryor said she would “love to have” over half of this Board be PWAs, but it not a reality at this time.

Ms. Gonsler was curious if the grant competition is about the percent of funding each group gets or about which agency gets funding. Mr. Brown said it is both, and said that each agency currently has a one year agreement with options to renew for two additional years for a total of three years. Ms. Gonsler asked if the process would be similar to what is followed for CDBG grants, and Mr. Brown said the review process would be the same. However, instead of being an application process, it is an RFP (request for proposal) process. The agencies will respond with a proposal packet, rather than a completed application. The Board may have presentations if they wish. Ultimately, a recommendation would be made to the City Commission, based on the RFP package and presentation.

Mr. Brown explained that in the past, individuals were selected every year to sit on the HOPWA RFP Committee. It was not as effective as it could have been, because the RFP committee may or may not have had ongoing experience with the HOPWA Program.

Ms. Hinton wondered about the frequency of the grants, and Mr. Brown answered that the grant comes up every three years, but the funding is dispensed annually (one-year contracts with two one-year options, or three-year contracts). He said there is flexibility on how that process works.

Ms. Pryor elaborated that there is a one-year contract with the option to extend, which means that the Board would have a say on whether to extend the contract.

Ms. Shirley asked for examples of definitions of services and eligibilities. Ms. Pryor replied there are primarily four categories of help from emergency to self-sufficiency:

- Facility-based housing (homeless shelter with support services)
 - HOPWA will pay 100% if the client does not have income to pay
 - 24-hour facilities
 - There are different strategies within those facilities:
 - ALF (Assisted Living Facility)
 - Substance Abuse counseling and medical care
 - Mental health housing and medical care
 - Community-based housing within the facility
 - Emergency transition housing (60-day limit)
- Project based rent
 - Semi-permanent, “almost on your own”
 - Designated apartments
 - Client has to check in

- Tenant-based voucher program
 - 100% self-sufficiency
 - Portion of rent paid by HOPWA
- Housing-case management
 - Support service for clients to obtain or maintain safe, decent and affordable housing.

Lastly, Ms. Pryor said there is another program for people who do not need the above services, but have to move for some reason. If they come to the agency, it will help pay move-in costs (first and last month's rent). If a client owns a home but cannot make mortgage payments, the agency will help them get paid and caught up. The focus of these two programs is to avoid homelessness.

Vice Chair Whipple asked what this Board could expect from City staff in terms of monitoring. Mr. Brown responded that the one thing staff will do for each agency responding to the RFP is make sure the Board has a copy of the previous monitorings. In addition, if the Board requests such, copies of monitorings will be provided at any other interval. Ms. Pryor added that they keep monthly statistics on the agency and the Board will have access to the needs assessment.

Mr. Brown mentioned that the RFP process would probably start in January/February. Regarding the funding cycle, Mr. Brown said that the CDBG and the HOPWA funding are typically approved all together in July, so they would have to set aside several months for CDBG and several for HOPWA. In addition, the Board would have to decide the contract length, which, in turn, would determine the frequency of reviewing the RFPs.

Vice Chair Whipple asked about keeping the CDBG and HOPWA accounts separated. Ms. Pryor said that HOPWA has been a separate item in the past, even though the City Commission approves the Annual Action Plan all at once. Mr. Brown added that until the Board has made its recommendation on the CDBG, they would not have the HOPWA information (or vice versa).

Ms. Pryor assured the Board that the meetings would be open to the public for input. She also mentioned that because she sits on the Ryan White board, she can also announce the CSB meetings there.

Ms. Pryor introduced Pablo Calvo, from the Broward Regional Health Planning Council. He said the Council provides HOPWA services to Broward County residents in three programs: short-term utility/rent/mortgage assistance, move-in assistance, and housing case management services.

Ms. Birch commented enthusiastically in favor of participating in the HOPWA grant process.

Chair Karney asked how soon they would begin on the HOPWA project. Ms. Pryor said it would be in December, when she would provide information in preparation for the process.

Chair Karney asked if there would be other modifications to the Board's duties, aside from the deletion of the Arts and Tourism part, and Mr. Brown replied that if there is something else they want to change, to put it on record so that they can have discussions with the City Commission.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COMMISSION

Motion by Vice Chair Whipple, seconded by Ms. Birch, that the Board request the board's purpose to include acting as the advisory on the Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) grant activities and to re-assign cultural arts and tourism to the Economic Development Advisory Board.

In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Pryor stated that above motion will be issued as a Communication to the City Commission.

Mr. Brown remarked that the City Commission wants to add performance indicators to the CDBG process. Ms. Pryor said that she and Mr. Brown have been working on performance indicators for HOPWA and would like to implement them in the HOPWA program as well.

IX. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Pryor announced that because the new meeting time will be 4:00 p.m., Ms. Greenstein has City Hall parking passes for the Board members.

Ms. Pryor also announced that she will be adding an agenda item – "Items for the Next Agenda."

Vice Chair Whipple requested a timeline of the HOPWA process for the next meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Hinton, seconded by Mr. Staab, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

[Minutes prepared by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]