

## **Public Service Grant Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** February 27, 2009

**Time:** 8:30 A.M.

**Present:** Alberta Hipps, Gwen Yates, Juan Diaz, John Donahoo, Ronald Mallett, Edgar Mathis and Arnold Tritt

**Welcome:** Alberta Hipps welcomed everyone and facilitated introductions.

### **Ordinance 2009-86 Updates – FY 2010 Priority Populations**

Ms. Hipps asked Ms. Phillips to give the updates regarding this ordinance. Ms. Phillips stated the Priority Populations legislation is pending before City Council as required by Chapter 118. At the Public Health and Safety Committee 2/17/09 meeting, Council Member Denise Lee asked for information relating to the priority population identified for “residents of neighborhoods at risk of high crime”. Specifically, she wanted to know what that definition would be. Ms. Phillips reached out to the University of North Florida and the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and also reviewed the JCCI report entitled “Neighborhoods at the Tipping Point” to seek out relevant risk factors that would serve as crime indicators. A letter was prepared and distributed (included in each PSG Council member’s meeting packet) to all City Council Members on 2/24/09. The memorandum stated that the list was not all inclusive and acknowledges that there are many other risk factors, but these were some that are usually looked at when completing a comprehensive assessment of a neighborhood.

In the effort to finalize the information, Council Member Lee stated it was not submitted timely enough to allow her time to review. At the City Council meeting on 2/24/09, Council Member Lee raised her concerns and as a result, Ordinance 2009-86 was deferred and re-referred back to the Public Health and Safety Committee to be heard on 3/2/09. Ms. Phillips stated that she has reached out to Council Member Lee to determine her questions and/or concerns. Ms. Phillips stated that one of Council Member Lee’s concerns was to know the specific targeted neighborhoods. Ms. Phillips stated that it was not intended to target a particular neighborhood, and the information provided was of risk factors. Ronald Mallett asked if the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office received monies for crime prevention through the Jacksonville Journey. Ms. Phillips stated that the Jacksonville Journey funding was designated for additional Police Officers. Edgar Mathis suggested to Ms. Phillips if she is challenged again about “residents of neighborhoods at high risk of crime” definition, she should get the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office to break down the information by zone, zip codes and other particulars.

### **Community Safety Net Fund Allocation Recommendation**

Ms. Hipps stated that she was in error and that she thought that the PSG Council had already voted on this funding allocation recommendation. Ms. Kirts stated that she had been told by the Legislative Services Office and the Office of General Counsel that any time a grant is funded referencing Chapter 118 in the contract, it has to be recommended by the Public Service Grant Council. This allocation has been a PSG Council agenda item for a few meetings but never voted on. The City is contributing to an overall grant that started with a Jessie Ball duPont Fund allocation of \$500,000 with the business community contributing another \$400,000. The Mayor wanted the City to also be involved and \$100,000 was identified for that contribution. The grant is intended to be for 90 days to help organizations help Duval County residents with immediate needs such as food, shelter and clothing due to the economy. There is a waiver to Chapter 118.208 that eliminates the need for an audit. This waiver was approved through the Council Auditor's Office with the rationale that because this was a 90-day program, a final financial report similar to the PSG Annual Financial Report would be due 30 days after program completion so that all funds could address the immediate needs identified. Edgar Mathis asked Ms. Phillips to identify who would administer the distribution of the grant funds. Ms. Phillips stated that Community Foundation would distribute the funds.

**Ronald Mallet made motion to accept the grant recommendation of \$100,000.00 to the Community Foundation to include the waiver and it was seconded by Mr. Edgar Mathis. Ms. Hipps asked for discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **THORMINC**

Nancy Kirts was asked to contact Cassandra Bush who represents THORMINC to attend the 3/17/09 Public Service Grant Council meeting. Ms. Bush will be provided time at this meeting to discuss any concerns she may have regarding Public Service Grants.

**Meeting adjourned: 9:00 A.M.**

**Minutes Prepared by: Linda Platte'**