

THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

**Wednesday, February 9, 2011
Greenville, North Carolina**

Present:

Alice Brewington
 Howard Conner
 John Martin

Karalee Coughlin
 Lovella Perkins
 Melissa Grimes

R. J. Hemby
 Sterling Reid

Absent:

Alice Brewington
 Howard Conner
 John Martin (excused)

Karalee Coughlin
 Lovella Perkins (excused)
 Melissa Grimes

R. J. Hemby
 Sterling Reid

Staff:

Merrill Flood
 Sandra Anderson
 Gloria Kesler

Karen Gilkey
 Sylvia Brown
 Betty Moseley

Thom Moton
 Kandie Smith (City Council Liaison)

Others Present:

Rose Glover

A. Roll Call

Mr. John Martin has asked to be excused.

Ms. Lovella Perkins has asked to be excused.

B. Approval of meeting minutes from January 12, 2011

Motion was made by Mr. Howard Conner and seconded by Ms. Karalee Coughlin to approve the meeting minutes for January 12, 2011 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Old Business

None

D. New Business

1. Election of 2011 – 2012 Chairman

Ms. Brewington asked for nominations for AHLC chairman.

Mr. Conner nominated Mr. R.J. Hemby as chair for the AHLC for 2011 – 2012.

No other nominations were received.

Motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Ms. Coughlin to elect Mr. R.J. Hemby as chair of the Affordable Housing Loan Committee for 2011 - 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Project Homeless Connect Event

Ms. Paulette White informed the committee of a one day, one-stop event on March 2, 2001 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, to provide a broad range of services to people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness.

Information regarding available services was given to the committee members.

3. Set Just Compensation

a. 610 Roosevelt Avenue

Mr. Scott Eaton stated that the owners of 610 Roosevelt Avenue have requested an appraisal of the property. The appraised value is \$10,000.00. The city would like to obtain this property.

Mr. Conner asked if the property will be rehabilitated or demolished.

Mr. Eaton replied that it will be demolished.

b. 417 Nash Street

Mr. Eaton stated that the owner of 617 Nash Street has waived his rights to an appraisal. The tax value is \$28,471.00. The city would like to obtain this property.

Mr. Conner asked if the property will be rehabilitated or demolished.

Mr. Eaton replied that the property will be demolished.

Ms. Coughlin asked if the property was appraised.

Mr. Eaton replied no, the owner had waived his rights to an appraisal.

c. 700 Pamlico Avenue

Mr. Eaton stated that the owner of 700 Pamlico Avenue has waived his right to an appraisal. The tax value is \$35,446.00. The city would like to obtain this property.

Mr. Conner asked if the value was market value or tax value.

Mr. Eaton replied that according to the Pitt County Tax Office, market value is the same as tax value.

Ms. Brewington asked if it was a large structure.

Mr. Eaton replied that it was four structures.

Motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Ms. Grimes to set just compensation for 610 Roosevelt Avenue at \$10,000.00, for 417 Nash Street at \$28,471.00, and for 700 Pamlico Avenue at \$35,446.00. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Subrecipient Funding Evaluation Process

Ms. Karen Gilkey stated that the forms for evaluation of the subrecipients were included in the AHLC packages. She reminded committee members that recommendations for funding requests will be given during the March 9th AHLC meeting.

5. Subrecipient Funding Request Presentations

a. CTBOCD, Inc.; \$39,390.00

Ms. Sylvia Brown stated that CTBOCD, Inc. will have an amended budget request for the next AHLC meeting.

Mr. Conner stated that he will ask the organizations to answer the following questions during their presentation.

- Do you receive United Way funding?
 - If not, explain why.
- What is the primary source of your funding?
- Do you have plans for other sources of funding this year?
- What is your primary focus area?
- What has your group done since the state awarded you a 503(c)?
- Why should your organization receive funding this year while others providing the same services will not receive any funding?

Dr. Beulah Roach and Mr. Herman Hemby represented the CTBOCD, Inc. Mr. Hemby stated that CTBOCD, Inc. does not receive any United Way funding and have not applied for their funding. The primary source of funding is First Biblician Church of Deliverance in Raleigh, North Carolina. In addition, funding is received through pledges, donations, and fundraisers. The primary function of CTBOCD, Inc. is counseling.

Dr. Roach stated that \$39,390.00 was for the project Calling on Unifying Support, Children Programs of the Arts. This project focuses on children in the West Greenville area and community schools. It will provide exposure to the arts, self expression, hope and purpose. An end of the years Community Event is sponsored to showcase student's artwork. Target age group is grades 6 – 12. According to research, this is the only program of this nature in the Greenville area.

Ms. Grimes inquired about the recruiting methods used for the project.

Dr. Roach replied that a referral form is used for the students. Recruiting methods include the media, school systems, juvenile detention center, Department of Social Services, and through mailings.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Dr. Roach stated that the program would also sponsor a career fair. She also, stated that the student's progress would be evaluated by working with the parents and schools and by the student's report card.

Mr. Hemby stated that the name of the organization was changed to reflect the direction of the ministry. He also stated that CTBOCD, Inc. would partner with East Carolina University and Abundant Life.

b. Boys & Girls Club; \$12,250.00

Mr. Jay Farron represented the Boys & Girls Club. Mr. Farron stated that \$12,250.00 was needed for the project Triple Play. This is part three of a three part program. The focus of the program is an Obesity Prevention Program that helps build self-esteem, better eating habits, and physical activity of 9 – 11 year olds.

Mr. Hemby inquired about transportation for bussing in students.

Mr. Farron replied that parents and the school systems normally bus in students.

In response to other questions and comments from the committee members, Mr. Farron stated that the Boys & Girls Club is funded by United Way, state funds, donations, and fundraisers. Some of the partners include Pitt County Schools, 4-H, ECU, and Americorp. Staff consists of volunteers, part time employees and students.

c. McCloud Computer & Skills Training Center; \$20,000.00

Ms. Valerie McCloud and Ms. Connie Gorham represented McCloud Computer & Skills Training Center. Ms. McCloud stated that \$20,000.00 was needed to purchase property at 1308 Dickinson Avenue for a new training center. The focus of the program is teaching computer skills to low income individuals and to train clients for a living wage job.

Ms. Grimes asked if the property would be rehabilitated or demolished.

Ms. Gorham replied that the property would be demolished.

Mr. Hemby asked if the funding requested was for property only or for a program also.

Ms. Gorham replied that it was for property only.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Ms. McCloud stated that United Way had provided furniture for their offices but did not provide funding. Other funding sources include grants, donations, banks, and Department of Labor.

d. NC Rural Fund for Development; \$11,880.00

Ms. Linda McKnight represented NC Rural Fund for Development. Ms. McKnight stated that \$11,880.00 was needed for Housing Counseling. The focus of NCRFD was to assist clients in identifying and minimizing barriers that prevent them from becoming homeowners.

Mr. Conner asked for clarification on the focus area for their counseling.

Ms. McKnight replied that the NCRFD was certified to work statewide. The board has approved focusing on Lenoir County and Pitt County.

Ms. Coughlin asked if the NCRFD was present in Greenville twice a week.

Ms. McKnight replied yes, on Tuesday's and Thursday's. A permanent location in Greenville has been secured.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Ms. McKnight stated that NCRFD employs three certified housing counselors. United Way does not provide funds but does allow use of conference room space for Homeownership Workshops.

e. Little Willie Center; \$6,500.00

Ms. Melissa Austin and Mr. Marvin Arrington represented the Little Willie Center. Ms. Austin stated that \$6,500.00 was needed for the Grounds Enhancement Project. The focus of the project is upgrading security measures, lighting, and gutters. Also, interior work was needed such as window blinds, lighting and alarm system.

Ms. Coughlin inquired about the security measures currently in use for the doorways.

Ms. Austin replied that each door is equipped with an alarm which sounds each time it is opened.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members Ms. Austin stated that the Little Willie Center did not receive United Way funding. However, an application for funding will be submitted. Mr. Arrington stated that other funding sources included that City of Greenville, parent contributions and other grant opportunities.

In regards to the ownership of the Little Willie Center, concern was expressed by committee members as to the validity of the grant request.

Mr. Merrill Flood stated that a memorandum of understanding concerning this funding request will be reviewed by management.

In response to Mr. Flood's statement, Mr. Hemby stated that the committee had previously requested that staff not prescreen applications, but instead let all applicants present.

f. Center for Family Violence Prevention (Family Center); \$25,000.00

Mr. Joshua Blake represented the Center for Family Violence Prevention. Mr. Blake stated that \$25,000.00 is needed for the Family Center. The focus of the Family Center is to assist custodial parents and visiting parents with visitations with children. Families are given books for children and for parenting.

In response to questions and comments from committee members, Ms. Blake stated that partners included the Department of Social Services, local courts, and attorneys. Other funding sources include Governor Crime Prevention and United Way.

g. Center for Family Violence Prevention (Safe House); \$25,000.00

Ms. Diana Lucas represented the Center for Family Violence Prevention. Ms. Lucas stated \$25,000.00 was needed for the Safe House. The focus of the Safe House is to provide shelter to abused females. Counseling and job training skills are provided.

Ms. Grimes asked what the procedure was if a male needed assistance.

Ms. Lucas stated that males are referred to the Greenville Community Shelter for housing, but the CFVP would do counseling.

In response to other questions and comments from the committee, Ms. Lucas stated that funded was received from the united Way. The services provided are one of a kind in the area. Other partners include Streets to Homes, Pitt Community College, and Greenville Community Shelter.

h. Literacy Volunteers of Pitt County; \$14,200.00

Ms. Teresa Barfield represented Literacy Volunteers of Pitt County. Ms. Barfield stated that \$14,200.00 was needed for the Employment Services and Job Training project. The focus of the project is to teach clients basic reading, writing, and speaking skills.

Mr. Hemby asked about the partnership relationship with Pitt Community College.

Ms. Barfield replied that both PCC and Literacy Volunteers of Pitt County are under the North Carolina Community College System. Literacy Volunteers is the only pro-literacy volunteer group in Pitt County. Many adults are not comfortable with the classroom setting of PCC, so they come to Literacy Volunteers for one-on-one tutoring.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Ms. Barfield stated that other partners include Pitt Resource Connection, Department of

Social Services, Mental Health providers, Pitt County Memorial Hospital and United Way. The services provided are not duplicated at other organizations.

i. Building Hope Community Life Center; \$18,000.00

Mr. Robert Lee and Mr. Troy Moore represented Building Hope Community Life Center. Mr. Lee stated that \$18,000.00 is needed for the ReCycle Workforce Training. The focus of the project is to teach disadvantaged youth bike and computer repair skills. Additionally, they familiarize youth with the basic components of small business ownership.

Mr. Hemby asked if BHCLC would be able to make cuts in their budget should CDBG funding not be awarded.

Mr. Lee replied that sells of bikes, computers, and metals would provide additional funds. The increase in the 2011 budget is due to youth stipends.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Mr. Lee stated that funding is received from United Way. Other funding is received from donations, other grants and an annual banquet.

j. L.I.F.E. of NC, Inc. (STRIVE); \$28,000.00

Ms. Joyce Jones represented L.I.F.E. of NC, Inc. STRIVE. Ms. Jones stated that \$28,000.00 was needed for the Project Center Stage. The focus of this project is to provide the hardest to employ individuals with job skills training and promote total wellness, intellectual and financial independence.

Ms. Grimes asked about the afterschool program offered by STRIVE.

Ms. Jones replied that an afterschool program was offered to students who are at risk of being suspended. The program offered by STRIVE allows the students to remain in school while working on the issues. No credit is given for attendance but it does allow the students to continue their education in a classroom setting.

In response to other questions and comments from committee members, Ms. Jones stated that funding is received from United Way. Partners include Center for Family Violence Prevention, Pitt Community College, Pitt County Health Department, East Carolina University, Pitt County Schools, Intergenerational Center, Police Department and Pitt County Sheriff's Department.

E. Housing Administrator's Report

Ms. Gilkey stated that the North Carolina Rural Fund for Development was holding a Homeownership Workshop on February 19, 2011.

Ms. Gilkey stated that a Community Meeting will be held on March 10, 2011 at York Memorial AME Church at 5:30pm for the 2011 Annual Action Plan.

Ms. Gilkey stated that a Contractors Workshop was being held on February 17, 2011, at the Barnes Ebron Taft Building at 10:00 AM for current Housing Division approved contractors.

Ms. Gloria Kesler stated that a spending reduction act is being presented to the House. The CDBG Program is facing elimination. Staff is asking for support from committee members by writing representatives.

F. Other

G. Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Ms. Coughlin to adjourn the Affordable Housing Loan Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Signature on file

R. J. Hemby, Chairman

Signature on file

Sandra W. Anderson, Staff Liaison