

**OLNEYVILLE CHOICE  
PRINCIPALS MEETING  
JANUARY 6, 2012**



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**OLNEYVILLE HOUSING CORPORATION @ 2:10PM – 3:15PM**

## **MINUTES**

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Frank Shea called the meeting to order at 2:10pm.

#### **ATTENDEES**

##### **Present:**

Stephen O'Rourke	Christine Medeiros
Melissa Sanzaro	Jennifer Hawkins
Lisa Castellanos	Jessica Vega
Richard Weinberg	Nate Ginsburg
Frank Shea	
Nancy Howard	
Garry Bliss	

### **CIRCULATE RFQ:**

- The Work Force Development RFQ is completed and will be sent to three parties seeking proposals: OIC, Eric Hagan and Social Venture Partners.

### **PRINCIPALS UPDATES**

#### **PROVIDENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

- **QUARTERLY REPORTS:** The next quarterly report is due January 15, 2012. Ms. Sanzaro requested the input of the Principals on the quarterly report. She asked for any updates on each one of the Principals organizations initiatives. In addition, a Partners Meetings Log will be emailed in order for the Principals to update it with any meetings each has had with other CNI Partners.
- **COMMUNITY WEBSITE:** Mr. Weinberg requested further input regarding the format and content of the website from the Principals present. Ms. Sanzaro also requested logos and project updates from all of the Principals in order to add this information to the CNI website.

#### **OLNEYVILLE HOUSING CORPORATION**

- **FORECLOSURE REMEDIATION:** Mr. Shea discussed that financial assistance for foreclosed properties is being reduced by 30%. The foreclosure remediation process that OHC is undertaking will begin on Chaffee Street and move through to the D'Abate School area. Presently, the front of the school is fenced-in and the planning process for the improvement of the rear of the school is underway. Mr. Shea continued his update by stating a meeting took place with the American City Coalition. The Urban Land Institute (ULI) Fellowship program is concentrating on the business and economic development of

the area around the former PriceRite site. Redeveloping this area is important to job creation and employment opportunities. S. O'Rourke stated that a meeting is needed with the owners of Curtis Arms housing development and the Narragansett Creamery "Cheese" Company to discuss their long-term goals.

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

- **HEALTHY HOMES INITIATIVE:** Mr. Bliss updated the attendees on the status of the Healthy Homes program. It is operational and contractors for the weatherization process have been identified. Most of the contractors are minority-owned organizations. As the program continues to progress, updates will follow.

### **LISC**

- **UPDATE:** Ms. Howard stated the Financial Opportunity Center is seeking an advisor. Additionally, Ms. Howard said emails have gone out to a number of national agencies regarding their potential to provide technical assistance to a grassroots organization.

### **DE-BRIEF ON HUD VISIT**

- Mr. Shea stated the site visit from the Washington HUD CNI Team was successful. The representatives seemed pleased with the outcome of the overall trip. Mr. O'Rourke concurred and mentioned that the HUD representatives said as much before returning to Washington.

### **IMPLEMENTATION GRANT**

- Attendees agreed there is great potential to execute an Implementation Grant early. Brewster-Thornton will take the lead on writing the Grant. In the meantime, the following questions need to be addressed:
  - Exactly how will Manton Heights be integrated into the neighborhood? Beyond the pedestrian opening on Manton Ave, the portion facing the bike path could be a connecting element.
  - How will the physical and social gaps be filled? Childcare services and homebuyer programs at Manton Heights?
  - Will market rate apartment integration occur with the integration?
  - If the overall goal is to connect and improve the Manton Heights development, funds must be allocated beyond physical repairs?
  - Can we decrease the percentage of PHA residents who participate in the Children and Family Services Daycare, as we increase its general capacity with neighborhood population? Do we construct a new facility?
  - Will Meeting Street School expand their scope of work from Cradle to Career to Cradle to Grave?
  - What are the long-term plans of the Narragansett Creamery Company (adjacent to Manton Heights)? How can we incorporate their organization into the planning and implementation process?

### **TOUR TOP-RATED HOPE VI PROJECTS**

- Frank Shea suggested that the group may want to conduct a field trip to visit some successful CNI-type projects in the Boston area. He suggested that Mission Main, a HOPE VI project, and Harborpoint development may be useful models for our CNI implementation grant. Each of these sites had common problems that they share with our area.

## **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

- **PRINCIPALS' MEETINGS:** The Principals' Meetings will be held on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at 9:00 A.M. The meeting locations will be determined.
- **SUB-PARTNER MEETINGS:** The sub-partner meetings format was discussed. It was decided that bringing all of the sub-partners together for one meeting was not necessarily productive. Sub-partners will be met with at other meetings and discussions will be recorded.

The next meeting will be Friday, February 17, 2012 at 9am.