

**PUBLIC HEARING of the Town Council held Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. in the Council Chamber, Town Building, Harrisville, for and within the Town of Burrillville.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Council President Wallace F. Lees; Councilors Jacqueline Zahn, William A. Andrews, Nancy F. Binns, Edward F. Bonczek and Margaret L. Dudley.**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilor Ronald E. Faford was excused due to illness.**

**Relative to obtaining citizens requests and views on proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities.**

**1. Public Input:**

**Kelly Hunt of Pascoag, Member and Treasurer of the Berean Baptist Church and Commissioner on the Burrillville Housing Authority discussed the Berean Baptist Church & Burrillville Housing Authority Assistance Programs that had been recommended for CDBG funding.**

**Ms. Hunt discussed Berean Baptist Church's community outreach programs during recent years, including health, dental and mammogram programs in association with Northwest Health; a community garden which provided food to Calvary Episcopal Church,**

**Our Lady of Good Help and the Gloucester food banks; financial donations to the same food banks; a clothes closet for those in need in the community; and heating assistance in conjunction with TriTown. Ms. Hunt suggested that the request for CDBG funds would allow the Berean Baptist Church to work with the Burrillville Housing Authority to expand their community services.**

## **2. Comments from Thomas J. Kravitz, Town Planner**

**Thomas J. Kravitz, Town Planner and Economic Development Coordinator, noted that the Town Council would prioritize the various programs that were recommended. There was discussion that the prioritization would take place during the next regular meeting.**

## **3. Town Council Members Comments/Input**

**Councilor Andrews noted that the total request was for \$334,500 and that the Town may apply for up to \$400,000, suggesting that the application be increased. Councilor William A. Andrews spoke in favor of the request by the Berean Baptist Church.**

**Councilor Jacqueline Zahn also supported the application of Berean Baptist Church/Burrillville Housing Authority. Councilor Zahn noted that the Maplehill Mobile Home Park has been included in the CDBG**

application for many years, noting that she would consider removing that portion of the application and including other programs. Councilor Zahn supported increasing the application to \$400,000. Councilor William A. Andrews discussed the need for Maplehill Mobile Home Park to complete the work to the park's infrastructure. Walter J. Kane, Town Solicitor, expanded on the problems that have arisen with the sewer and water systems at Maplehill Mobile Home Park.

In response to a question about the Community Housing Land Trust, Inc. (CHLT), Thomas J. Kravitz, Town Planner and Economic Development Coordinator, explained that Jeffrey A. Gofton of CHLT serves as a consultant to provide affordable housing services such as those related to monitoring affordable housing. Mr. Kravitz noted the importance of those services, noted that CHLT provides services to all communities, and that CHLT submitted an application for \$5,000 to each community. The services were discussed. Alison Cote of Berean Baptist Church noted that there are other agencies that monitor affordable housing, such as The Housing Network in Rhode Island. Ms. Cote discussed the services provided by monitoring agencies.

Councilor Zahn asked whether program administration funds are generally provided and whether the \$10,000 requested suffices. Mr. Kravitz indicated that the \$10,000 covers the mailings, advertising and other administrative functions and that \$10,000 is sufficient.

**4. VOTED to close the public hearing.**

**Motion by Councilor William A. Andrews. Seconded by Councilor Jacqueline Zahn. The motion was unanimous by the six members present. Voting in favor of the motion were Council President Wallace F. Lees, Councilors Jacqueline Zahn, William A. Andrews, Nancy F. Binns, Edward F. Bonczek and Margaret L. Dudley. Councilor Ronald E. Faford was excused.**

**5. VOTED to adjourn at 7:15 P.M.**

**Motion by Councilor Margaret L. Dudley. Seconded by Councilor Jacqueline Zahn. The motion was unanimous by the six members present. Voting in favor of the motion were Council President Wallace F. Lees, Councilors Jacqueline Zahn, William A. Andrews, Nancy F. Binns, Edward F. Bonczek and Margaret L. Dudley. Councilor Ronald E. Faford was excused.**

**Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk**