

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
PROVIDENCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Thursday, January 10, 2008
400 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903**

The Providence Redevelopment Agency (PRA) met in regular session at the Office of the Agency at 400 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island on Thursday, January 10, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

The Chairman called the meeting to order. Present were: Henry Kates, Chairman; Councilman Leon Tejada, Jim DeRentis and Charles Walton, Members

Absent at time of roll call: Leslie A. Gardner, Vice Chairwoman; Councilman Luis Aponte and Robert Montecalvo

Approval of Minutes: Mr. DeRentis made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Walton. The motion passed unanimously and minutes were approved as submitted.

Mr. Deller reported that under the bylaws the January meeting, which is the annual meeting, the agency is required to elect a chair, vice-chair, secretary and the 2008 meeting schedule.

Mr. Deller asked for nomination for Chairman of the Agency. Mr. Walton made a motion to nominate Mr. Henry Kates as Chairman for the Agency and Councilman Tejada seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Resolution No. 2008-01 was adopted.

Mr. Deller asked for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Agency. Mr. Walton made a motion to nominate Mr. Leslie Gardner for the Vice-Chairwoman and Councilman Tejada seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Resolution No. 2008-02 was adopted.

Mr. Deller asked for nominations for Secretary of the Agency. Mr. Walton made a motion to nominate Ms. April Wolf as Secretary for the Agency and Mr. DeRentis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Resolution No. 2008-03 was adopted.

Approval of the 2008 Meeting Schedule – Mr. DeRentis made a motion and Mr. Walton seconded the motion approving the 2008 meeting schedule as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Bills and Communications –

Cleanscape – Mr. Deller reported that cleanscape continues to provide service to the agency to maintain the lots. This is FYI only.

REPORT OF THE AGENCY

Mr. Deller spoke about the foreclosure problems in the City and the introduction of a program, being drafted, to assist individuals with the purchase of foreclosed properties. Money would be made available through the Housing Trust and the HOME program to assist individuals in acquiring the homes.

Councilman Aponte arrives at 4:03 p.m.

Mr. Deller reported that as a follow up to an email that he sent to the members regarding the Castle Cinema. The Gemma Brothers, owners of the Castle Cinema, have decided to give the property to the SPCA.

Mr. DeRentis asked how many properties have been foreclosed in the city and the breakdown of single and multi-family homes

Mr. Deller said that we currently do not have a final count on properties foreclosed. A rough number would be close to 700-800 homes that have had some sort of notice regarding foreclosure and most of the properties are multi-family homes.

Mr. Kates asked for a motion to enter into executive session citing RIGL 42-46-5 (A) – legal issues.

Councilman Aponte made the motion to enter into executive session which was seconded by Mr. Walton. The agency entered into executive session at 4:10 p.m.