

GARLAND
Community Services Committee
Minutes of the April 6, 2010 Meeting

Members Present:

Council Member Laura P. Cox, Chair
Council Member Barbara Chick
Council Member Darren Lathen

Staff Present:

Neil Montgomery, Senior Managing Director of Development Services
Richard Briley, Managing Director of Health
Jason Chessher
Diana Oats
Felisa Conner

Chairperson Cox called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The minutes of the March 2, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Council Member Darren Lathen; second by Council Member Barbara Chick.

Discuss the Detroit Retaining Occupancy On Foreclosure (ROOF) Program

Staff presented information regarding this program gathered from sources within the City of Detroit. The program was initiated by a group made of representatives from mortgage companies, banks, the City of Detroit, homeowner advocacy organizations and others. It was set up to help homeowners facing foreclosure remain in their residence as long as possible. After reviewing the information and discussing its applicability to Garland, it was the consensus of the committee to recommend to the full Council that no further action be taken.

Consideration of Breed Specific Enclosure Requirements

Jason Chessher presented a proposed policy regarding enclosure requirements for the committee's consideration. He also reviewed language in state statutes about "dangerous dogs" and indicated that the proposed policy would apply to a certain breed because of their propensity to climb. Council Member Darren Lathen asked questions concerning having a policy versus an ordinance and the basis for enforcement. Following discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to forward this item to the Council for their review.

Review Neighborhood Vitality Grant Applications

Staff presented the applications received in the latest cycle for the Neighborhood Vitality program. Five applications were received and reviewed by the staff, and all were eligible for funding. After reviewing them, the Committee voted unanimously to forward all five to the Council with a recommendation for approval. It was indicated they would appear on the April 19, 2010 agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

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Submitted by: Neil Montgomery

Approved by Committee: July 20, 2010

Approved by: Council Member Laura Perkins Cox, Chairperson