

# **Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA)**

## **Forty Eighth Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017 – 4:07 P.M.**

### **Proceedings:**

The CRA meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. with Chairman Crary presiding. Roll was called with Donna Crary, Chairman; Fred Frederick, CRA Member; Mike McGowan, CRA Member; and Tim Abell, CRA Member present. Robert Love, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development; and Leigha Steele, Economic Development Coordinator were also in attendance. Karen Ruff, City Solicitor, arrived at 4:10 p.m.

- Motion to approve CRA meeting minutes of October 18<sup>th</sup>, Fred Frederick motioned, Tim Abell seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
- Motion to approve minutes of CRA closed session of October 18<sup>th</sup>, Fred Frederick motioned, Tim Abell seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

### **New Business:**

- CRA Membership Update
  - Everyone in attendance at the meeting has said that they want to continue their membership. The Mayor's Office is aware of the ordinance that states the types of people needed for membership, and is looking into it.
  - Chairman Crary stated that the legislation will be looked at during the Mayor and City Council Meeting. If there is anything that the CRA members would like to change, please make Chairman Crary aware, so it can be brought up during that time.
  - Tim Abell would like to attend the Council meetings when discussions of the CRA are on the agenda.
  - Leigha Steele will let the CRA Members know when the CRA will be on the Council agenda, so they are able to attend those meetings.
  - Mike McGowan showed interest in attend those Council meetings as well.
- Chairman Crary will send everyone her personal email to use as her contact until issues with her City email is resolved.
- Robert Love gave updates from the Department of Economic and Community Development:
  - Spring Arbor Project – a 55 unit townhouse community, at Van Dusen Road by Avalon Bay at Anderson's Corner, they just obtained all their zoning approvals for development
  - Royal Farms – approved in the Spring, will be constructed on Van Dusen on the other side of Avalon Bay at Anderson's Corner
  - A Bed and Breakfast special exception is currently pending to locate at 1110 Montgomery Street
  - Applications coming up – The proposed re-development of the Patuxent golf course and a townhouse community off of Contee Road for the land that was annexed into the City in September
  - Medical Marijuana Special Exception – coming up next month at the Planning Commission

The CRA adjourned into closed session at 4:20 p.m. to consider the acquisition of real property.

The CRA reconvened the regular meeting at 4:32 p.m.

### **Old Business:**

- Motion to approve the confirmation of previous discussions to give an authorization to Donna Crary to enter into negotiations regarding the purchase of the Gude Mansion, and giving Donna Crary power to act as the sole negotiator and reducing it to a contract for purchase, Mike McGowen motioned, Tim Abell seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
- The CRA has looked over the proposal for Venus Theatre, and would like to meet with Deb Randall when she is ready to provide an offer for the 312 Main Street Property.
- Deb Randall, the owner of Venus Theatre, has a team of people working with her, including a grant writer and architect. She is looking into getting grants to help fund her project.
- Discussions by the CRA members about properties in Howard County that border the City boundaries and if there is a master plan by Howard County that would give more information about these plans for these properties in the future.
- Robert Love and Leigha Steele, met with Jonathan Williams of Real Projectives, he showed interested in purchasing multiple properties on Main Street to become a landlord, and also create a market place style retail storefront with multiple tenants.
- Leigha Steele will be in contact with him to send him properties listings as they become available.
- Chairman Crary stated that the CRA met and entered into negotiations with him but he did not want to move forward until all County approvals were made.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

The CRA Meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.