

Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA)

Sixty Ninth Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 – 4:02 P.M.

Proceedings:

The CRA meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. with Chairman Crary presiding. Roll was called with Donna Crary, Chairman; Mike McGowan, CRA Member; and Brian Keys, CRA Member present. Guest, Nathaniel A. Forman, O'Malley, Miles, Nylan, and Gilmore, P.A.; Christian Pulley, Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development; Robert Love, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development, and Leigha Steele, Economic Development Coordinator were also in attendance. Jamal Lee arrived at 4:04 p.m.

Motion to approve CRA meeting minutes of October 16th, Mike McGowan motioned, Brian Keys seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

New Business:

- The next CRA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 18th, but will be cancelled due to the holidays The next meeting will now take place on January 15th

Old Business:

Approval for the furniture invoice totaling \$7,455.00 for Gude, Mike McGowan motioned, Brian Keys seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

- Gude Updates
 - There was a drainage problem after the handicap ramp was added. Absolute Landscaping was called in by the contractor to reroute the drainage. The original quote was \$14,281. Chairman Crary negotiated the price down to about \$3,500 and Laurel Public Works will finish the work.
 - The flooring on the 2nd floor and the stairs are being sanded and refinished
 - The quote for the concrete path and brick edging on the side of the building came back for \$10,000-\$14,000. Donna Crary negotiated for Laurel Public Works to do the work for free.
 - 16 pink and white Tuscarora Crepe Myrtles trees, that grow 16-25 feet, were planted along the side of the Gude building to hide the neighboring brick building. The original cost was \$165 per tree, but Donna Crary was able to negotiate to get them at no charge.
 - On November 8th, the building lost heat. The 2 ductless heating systems were turned on and were able to heat the entire building and keep it at a stable temperature, so there were no problems with the newly installed flooring.
 - The kitchen cabinets and cabinet tops are installed.
 - The City set up an Amazon account for ordering including porch lights, kitchen lights, and fans.
 - The Gude heat pump will be donated to Laurel Public Works for their building
 - The Gude exhibit room is not able to be leveled because the doors are also slanted and would not open if leveled, so the contractor is leveling the upstairs addition room instead
 - It was suggested that because of the period of the building, shutters are used. Estimates for blinds/shutters for Gude were shared costing about \$19,000-\$20,000 total for all three floors

Continue negotiations for blinds for Gude, and get a quote from Next Day Blinds, Jamal Lee motioned, Mike McGowan seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

The CRA Meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.