

ACCEPTED FEBRUARY 11, 2010

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING**

JANUARY 7, 2010

PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL

6:00 P.M.

Present: Chairperson Nancy Emerson, Vice Chairperson Dani Rooney, Bob Layton, William Thorpe, Algene Bailey, Constance Carmody, Lynne Langley

Absent: Jean Pecunies (called), Lynne Langley (called)

Staff: David Moore, Assistant Community Development Director

Chairperson Emerson opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Moore, who provided a presentation on the FY 2010-2011 Annual Action Plan and Budget process and the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. In addition, he described the Community Development Block Grant program generally and the eligible uses of CDBG funds. He explained the public hearing was the first of two opportunities for the public to make suggestions regarding the planned use of CDBG funds for the period between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. A previous public hearing was held in December to also solicit project ideas. Another public hearing on the draft Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Budget will be held in April.

Chairperson Emerson then opened the public hearing to the public.

Catherine Edison of Community Child Care Center spoke on behalf of her agency and thanked the Committee for its past support of the Center. She indicated 100% of the CDBG funds received go directly to subsidize child care costs for families.

Sandy Beaudry of Child & Family services indicated that the CDBG funds her agency receives provide partial funding for a family therapist who works in Portsmouth. She indicated the agency has been able to increase their level of service by adding another part-time family therapist in Portsmouth. Child & Family Services has an office in the Seybolt Building at the Portsmouth City Hall complex.

Debbie Bartley of Lamprey Healthcare's Info-link spoke on behalf of the Medical Assistance program, thanked the Committee for its past support and indicated her agency would again be coming forward for funding through the Public Service Agency Grant program.

Cynthia Shanley of Wentworth Connections also thanked the Committee for its support through the Public Service Agency Grant program. She indicated the agency receives grants for both the Senior Companion Program and the Senior Center Activities program. She said the agency recently celebrated its one year anniversary since it began operations at Parrott Avenue Place and brought the Senior Center, Transportation, Adult Day

Program and H2U programs together. She reported it is going well and is looking forward to next year.

Leo Gagnon, a member of the Workforce Housing Coalition Board of Directors was recognized and indicated he was attending to learn more about the CDBG program and budget process.

Judy Bunnell of the Portsmouth Housing Authority indicated she had begun working part-time for the Portsmouth Housing Authority and was working in particular with the residents at the Lafayette School Senior Apartments.

A general discussion regarding the upcoming budget process followed the public hearing.

Chairperson Emerson then moved to consideration of the minutes from December 10, 2009. Vice Chairperson Rooney moved that the minutes be accepted as presented and Mr. Bailey seconded the motion; all voted in favor.