

**DRAFT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

MAY 2, 2013

**PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL
Conference Room A**

6:30 P.M.

Present: Chairwoman Nancy Emerson, Vice Chairwoman Dani Rooney, Algene Bailey, Constance Carmody, Lynne Langley, Bob Layton, Alicia Weaver

Absent: Alison Hamilton

Staff: Dave Allen, David Moore, Adam Cannon

Vice Chairwoman Nancy Emerson called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Next, the committee unanimously approved the minutes from the April 9th Citizens Advisory Committee meeting.

Next, Mr. Moore introduced the planned budget for the fiscal year and noted that HUD has given guidance that the entitlement grant will be reduced by 10%. He stated the annual plan and budget would need to be submitted to HUD on May 15th.

Chairwoman Emerson opened the hearing. There were two public speakers.

Ms. Del Morse of the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood Association asked about progress on the installation of an emergency access road. She stated that she has concerns about terrorism and trucks overturning. She also asked about progress on Ranger Way streetscape improvements. Mr. Moore stated that they will be completed in the next construction season.

Ms. Morse continued by asking about progress on Maynard Park improvements. She stated that she is aware that the City does not own the park and asked if there are any problems with the State. Mr. Moore stated that the City is continuing to research options with the State and will advise the Citizens Advisory Committee and neighborhood when there is movement to report.

Mr. Byron Grant of Operation Blessing requested funding for an emergency generator to power freezers for meat storage. He stated that he was concerned about losses of power during storms.

Chairwoman Emerson closed the public hearing. The Committee began to discuss the budget. Mr. Moore noted that bid documents were being readied for construction at Ranger Way and that progress is going smoothly. He added that depending on interest in the community by others, the staff may consider a competitive grant round for an emergency power source.

Mr. Moore also gave an update about the emergency access route. He stated that the City is still talking with PSNH regarding the improvement of a temporary boat road which would be used in the event of a prolonged emergency, but not for a permanent secondary access route. Ms. Langley stated that she always thought that the boat road would be opened if the neighborhood needed it. Mr. Moore indicated there is still an agreement with PSNH for that very purpose.

Ms. Emerson noted that the neighborhood comes back annually to ask for additional funds, but that the permanent road may be a bridge too far. Ms. Langley suggested conducting an emergency drill in the neighborhood to educate the neighborhood about how the boat road would be helpful.

Ms. Carmody asked if the Committee should draw up a plan if the City receives more or less money as part of the entitlement grant. Ms. Emerson recommended adding funds to the agencies that are receiving funds if more money is granted.

Mr. Layton motioned to recommend the Annual Plan and Budget to HUD. Ms. Langley seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Layton also made a motion for the Committee to accept his resignation after decades of service. He stated that he has had a wonderful time working on the Committee since the CDBG program began. He stated that many wonderful things have been done through CDBG funding that have gone unnoticed. He thanked Mr. Moore and the other Committee members for their work.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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