

Pittsburgh Land Bank [PLB]

May 13th, 2016

Convene: Chair called meeting to order.

Public Comment:

- Zeba Ahmed, Northside Leadership Conference
- Marysa Myers, Housing Authority, City of Pittsburgh

Roll Call:

Members Present: Reverend Burgess, Chair, Dr. Jamil Bey, Vice Chair, Director Leger, Treasurer, Karen Abrams, Secretary, Councilman Lavelle, Councilwoman Kail-Smith, Tara Sherry-Torres, Steve Mazza

Absent: Senator Wayne Fontana

Approval of April Minutes:

◇ Motion to approve April Board meeting minutes as submitted: **[Lavelle/Leger]** Passed unanimously.

Chairman's report:

Reverend Burgess provided an overview of the work under the legal contract with Irene McLaughlin, Esq.

◇ Motion to file for a Federal EIN **[Lavelle/Leger]**. Passed unanimously.

Counsel will prepare and conduct ethics training for the Board of Directors over the summer.

Administrator's Report:

Bethany Davidson, representative of the Urban Redevelopment Authority, provided an update on the activities over the last month.

Chair requested a memo from an insurance broker outlining the liabilities and advisement pertaining to securing various types of insurance for the Land Bank.

The URA is in the process of executing the contract with the Center for Community Progress to provide technical assistance to the City's land recycling system, including the land bank.

Report from Communications Committee:

Committee chair KAbrams provided a report on the work of the committee, including the need to understand the funds available for communications and outreach work.

◇ Motion to receive the Communication's Committee report **[Lavelle/Mazza]**. Passed unanimously.

Report from Treasurer:

Board Treasurer, Paul Leger, provided a report and the intention to establish a 2016 year-end budget as well as draft a budget for 2017.

◇ Motion to receive the Treasurer's Report **[Lavelle/Abrams]**. Passed unanimously.

Discussion:

Chairman Burgess provided a few additional comments:

- A review of the Pittsburgh Land Bank creation ordinance (Bill 2014-0025) to clarify the obligations of the Board around timelines, steps, and public input.
- Congratulations to Board member Karen Abrams who was recently selected as a Harvard Loeb Fellow. As such, she will be stepping off of the Board in July. The Mayor will appoint her replacement.
- The Urban Land Institute released a report on the HELP Initiative, which enumerated several significant opportunities for the land bank.

Adjournment:

◇ Motion to adjourn. **[Kail-Smith/Torres]** Passed unanimously.