



Pittsburgh Land Bank [PLB] Minutes
February 14, 2020
City Council Chambers

Convene:

The Chair called meeting to order.

Roll Call:

PLB Interim Executive Director Leger called the roll. Present were Rev. Burgess (Chair), Jamil Bey, Diamonte Walker, Sen. Wayne Fontana, Councilwoman Theresa Kail-Smith, Councilman Daniel Lavelle, Wanda Wilson. Mot present was Steve Mazza. A Quorum was present.

Public Comment:

No speakers addressed the board in Public Comment.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the January 2020, Board meeting minutes without correction **[Bey/Wilson]** Passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Burgess said he had no report and went to the next agenda item.

Interim Director's Report:

Interim Director Leger gave the report included in the board packet.

He said that he had a question about elimination of the Property Reserve since it was done by an Amendment to the coop with the URA and not by City Council action. Rev. Burgess said he would request a legal opinion from the City Solicitor since Council is the client and the PLB is not.

Mr. Leger said the RFP for finding a title search and quiet title company was almost ready. Theresa Kail Smith said she wanted to see it before it was issued. Mr. Leger asked if he could issue it after Ms. Kail Smith approves it rather than waiting for the March meeting. This arrangement was moved and approved unanimously **[Fontana/Lavelle]**.

Mr. Leger said that the board could select a Solicitor without a formal RFP because it is a legal matter. Rev. Burgess said that we could develop a list and bring it back to the board for approval/rejection.

Finance Report:

Interim Director Leger asked for approval of a 2020 budget and cautioned the board that we cannot spend more than we have, which is limited to \$163,000 at present. The budget was moved, seconded and approved unanimously **[Lavelle/Fontana]**.

Mr. Leger presented bills from the URA for services totaling 57,005.87. This covered November, December of 2019 and January of 2020. Ms. Wilson said that she thought that those bills were

something that should be reduced or eliminated since they were actually normal operating expenses and the board had not been entirely pleased with the services. She asked Mr. Leger to negotiate reduction or elimination of those bills with the URA and the board agreed. Mr. Leger said he would discuss with URA staff.

Inventory Report:

- a. Legal Counsel, Irene Clark, reported that there was no new information on the inventory.
- b. Title and deed status of the Meadow Street property were not yet complete.

Communications Committee:

Dr. Bey reported that there was nothing new from the Communications committee.

Legislative and Regulatory Update:

Senator Fontana said the Governor's budget keeps funding for housing programs. He also said that two Senate bills keep tax credits and PHFA funding and programs for first time home buyers. He also said that the presidential budget eliminates funding for HUD's HOME program. Other housing and rental programs are reduced or eliminated, too. Senator Fontana said there may be some issues related to eminent domain in a footnote to a bill. He will keep the board informed.

New Business:

No new business.

Adjournment:

The Chair called for adjournment.

Motion to adjourn. **[Kail Smith/Bey]** Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 13, 2020, 1pm in Council Chambers.