



Pittsburgh Land Bank [PLB] Minutes
January 10, 2020
City Council Chambers

Convene:

The Chair called meeting to order.

Roll Call:

PLB Acting Director Nathan Clark called the roll. Members Present: Reverend Burgess, Chair; Jamil Bey, Vice Chair; Paul Leger, Treasurer, Diamonte Walker, Secretary; Senator Wayne Fontana; Wanda Wilson; Daniel Lavelle; Steve Mazza; Theresa Kail Smith present on the phone. A Quorum was present.

Public Comment:

Joanna Demming, Perry Hilltop; Lucas Bagshall, Perry Hilltop; Gabriella Marchione, Homewood, Operation Better Block; Mary Rees, Hazelwood Initiative; Gordon Davidson, Mt. Washington Community Organization; Aaron Sukunek, Hilltop Association, Allentown; Lee Walls, Amani Christian Development; Maleek Morris, Larimer Consensus Group; Claire Feeney, PCRG.

All spoke about their desire that the board adopt the recommendations of the committee that wrote Property Reserve Recommendations.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the December 2019, Board meeting minutes without correction [**Wilson/Fontana**]
Passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman asked for a motion to appoint Paul Leger as part-time, temporary Interim Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Land Bank [**Fontana/Lavelle**]. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Leger resigned his position on the board of Directors of the Land Bank in order to accept the position.

Chairman asked for a motion to appoint Daniel Lavelle as Treasurer to replace Mr. Leger [**Fontana/Mazza**]. The motion was approved unanimously and it passed. Board Member Lavelle is now the Pittsburgh Land Bank Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee.

Director's Report:

Director Nathan Clark reported on continuance of the URA Agreement for administrative services and said that the most recent invoices from the URA for administrative services were not ready for presentation.

Finance Report:

Interim Director Leger asked for approval of payment of a bill for \$171.72 to the New Pittsburgh Courier for advertising of the board meeting. **[Fontana/Lavelle]**.

Mr. Leger told the board that there was no draft budget at this time because he wanted to look into the possibility of additional revenue and more clarity about legal expenses which are unknown at this time.

Inventory Report:

- a. Legal Counsel, Irene Clark, reported that there was no new information on the inventory.

Property Reserve Committee:

- a. Committee head Wanda Wilson submitted the report of the Land Reserve Committee as amended (Version 2.0). She asked that the board formally adopt the recommendations as a way to proceed on the Property Reserve which expired under City Code on December 31, 2019. Chairman Burgess said he preferred to accept the recommendations and procedures based on the recommendations would be developed and considered for adoption. Ms. Kail Smith said that she thought the recommendations were too favorable to CDCs and did not make allowances for individuals seeking to obtain property. Ms. Wilson reminded the board that the recommendations were only for the property reserve and for CDCs and there were still many other ways for people to obtain property through the Land Bank. Chairman Burgess said he did not want to have the recommendations have the force of law but would rather adopt them and follow with specific policies and procedures based on the recommendations. Motion to adopt the regulations with the understanding that administration would prepare Policies and Procedures for discussion based on the recommendations **[Lavelle/Bey]**. All members except Ms. Kail Smith voted Aye. Ms. Kail Smith voted No.. Dr. Bey asked what would happen to land currently in the expired Property Reserve. Mr. Leger said that there were contracts between the City and the CDCs for each parcel in the Reserve and those contracts would remain in effect.

Communications Committee:

Dr. Bey reported that the website needs attention to make it more user friendly and an interactive source of communication and information for the public.

Legislative and Regulatory Update:

Senator Fontana said there had been no session of the Senate. He said that the Senate was investigating legislation on property title clearance to try to make the process more efficient. He suggested that everyone examine how this is done in other states and localities if they can find information on this.

New Business:

No new business.

Adjournment:

The Chair called for adjournment.

Motion to adjourn. **[Fontana/Mazza]** Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 14, 2020, 1pm in Council Chambers.