

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex
18 N. County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

6:00 PM

10th Floor - Conference Room C

**Community Development Commission - Executive
Committee**

1. Roll Call

Staff: Joel Williams, Megan McKenna, Sarah Ciampi, and Laura Walley.

Guests: Dave Wolowitz and John Quintanilla of Prairie State Legal Services, and Gail Schechter of Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs.

Vice-Chairman Pedersen called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Present 4 - Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Northern and Chair Pedersen

Excused 1 - Commissioner Calabresa

2. Approval of Minutes

3. Chair's Remarks

There were no comments.

4. Public Comment (items not on the agenda)

There were no comments.

5. Old Business

There was no old business.

6. New Business

6.1

Review of Responses to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for CDBG-funded Fair Housing Program.

Mr. Joel Williams explained the need for and the services provided by the Fair Housing Program. He said that Mr. Dave Wolowitz and Mr. John Quintanilla, from Prairie State Legal Services, were in attendance and would answer questions posed by the Executive Committee (EC). Due to a scheduling conflict, a representative from Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs (IHC) was not available at the meeting's onset. The two aforementioned agencies were the only entities that submitted applications for the available funding. A discussion on the process of fair housing testing ensued. In response to questions from the EC, Mr. Wolowitz described how Prairie State assists its low-income clients, including the services rendered during the past year that the agency had acted as the County's Fair Housing provider. He stated that all of the cases handled during that timeframe were resolved without the need for complaint-based testing, which was the testing type agreed upon within the agency's sub-recipient agreement with the County. Mr. Wolowitz added that, should his agency receive the funding award, random testing would be conducted, with John Marshall Law School providing those services. At this point, Ms. Gail Schechter, of IHC, arrived and answered questions on her agency's application. Should IHC receive the funding award, they plan to hire an additional worker and to expand the agency's services to include all of Lake County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rose, seconded by Commissioner Russell, that Prairie State Legal Services be recommended to the full CDC for approval as the provider of Lake County's Fair Housing Program. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Northern and Chair Pedersen

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Community Development Administrator's Report

There was no report.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Northern, seconded by Commissioner Russell, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Rose, Commissioner Northern and Chair Pedersen