

**Neighborhood Committee Conference Call
Meeting Minutes
Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Boulevard, 5th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
Tuesday, February 5, 2018
11:00 a.m.**

PRESENT VIA PHONE:

Members: Mayor Luke Bronin (Committee Chair), Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Board Chair
Suzanne Hopgood, Mayor Marcia LeClerc and David Jorgensen

Guests: Don Chapman (City of Hartford)

Staff: Mike Freimuth

PRESENT AT CRDA OFFICES:

Guests: Kiley Gosselin (City of Hartford), David Kozak (Hartford Sports Group)

Staff: Kim Hart

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Mayor Bronin and the minutes of the March 10, 2017 meeting were approved on a voice vote.

Mayor Bronin gave brief updates on the three pending CRDA neighborhood projects:

- **Bowles Park** - Phase 2 abatement has been completed and demolition is expected to be completed later this month;
- **Brackett Knoll** - On February 13th, the City Council will consider the transfer of property to the developer for construction;
- **Swift Factory** – The developer is expected to close on the project financing shortly.

Dillon Stadium – Committee members reviewed a draft memo from Mr. Freimuth to Mayor Bronin outlining a plan for the redevelopment of Dillon Stadium to allow for greater community usage and the inclusion of a United Soccer League (USL) team. Mr. Freimuth noted that additional State tax revenue expected to be generated by the USL team would justify the investment of up to \$6.7 million in capital improvements at the facility. Allowing for the installation of an artificial turf field (estimated at \$1.5 million) and additional improvements at

the adjacent Colt Park, Mr. Freimuth recommended that CRDA request \$10 million of neighborhood funding from the State Bond Commission for the project.

The memo was approved by the Committee on a voice vote and the matter referred to the full Board for its approval.

Westbrook Village – Mayor Bronin reported that the City has requested \$9 million in State funds (likely Urban Act) for the relocation of residents and demolition of Westbrook Village. He advised members that the City would approach CRDA for construction funds at a later date, unless the Committee wished to provide funds for the relocation/demolition phase. Members agreed to hold off considering funding until the construction phase of the project.

1240 Albany Avenue – Mayor Bronin also reported on a new project for which the City is seeking CRDA financial assistance. A developer is interested in rehabbing the long-vacated Northwest District School at 1240 Albany Avenue for use by a local minority-owned home health care agency with approximately 150 employees. The building is of historical significance and needs a considerable amount of work. The City has requested \$1.0 million of Urban Act funds from the State and is seeking another \$2 - \$2.5 million in CRDA neighborhood funds.

CRDA staff is currently reviewing the pro forma and will tour the building in the next few weeks.

Park & Main – Mayor Bronin reported that committee reviewing responses to the City's RFP for a developer for the Park Street and Main Street intersection area will be making a final selection shortly.

The next meeting of the Neighborhood Committee is scheduled for *Friday, March 2, 2018*.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.