



REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE MEETING

John J. Schupp, Director
Grif Chalfant, Director
Mark Gibbs
Brian Strack, Director
Pete Bilson, Director
George Bentley, Director

Wednesday, April 24, 2011

City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Rm.

Presiding: John Schupp

Present: Brian Strack, Peter Bilson, George Bentley, Grif Chalfant

Also Present:

Reggie Taylor, Executive Director

Teresa Sabree, Redevelopment Project Manager

Liz Helenek, Resident 212 Gramling Street

Warren Herron, Cobb Pregnancy Center

Steve Frey, Cobb Pregnancy Center

CALL TO ORDER:

John Schupp called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Presentation on community garden

Liz Helenek presented information on community gardens and proposed the use of MRC property for a garden in the Hedges redevelopment area. Discussion followed regarding location, irrigation/watering, grant funding and community support. The Committee asked Ms. Helenek for additional information to consider and Director Chalfant requested that vacant lots located west of the Hedges Street park be considered for the garden.

Action: Director Bentley moved and Strack seconded a motion to allow Liz Helenek to conduct a feasibility study for the lots outside of the redevelopment. The motion was approved unanimously,

-Review of property repair bids and maintenance

T. Sabree presented maintenance and utility expenses for MRC owned property. Discussion followed regarding expenses for specific properties.

(Note: Further discussion was held later in the meeting regarding repair bids and maintenance)

-Discussion of adjacent property owners

Representatives of the Cobb Pregnancy Center spoke to the Committee regarding plans to construct a new and expanded center adjacent to the Hedges redevelopment site. Discussion followed regarding coordinated redevelopment, the use of MRC property for temporary parking during streetscape construction on Powder Springs Road, acquisition of MRC property and funding for the Hedges Street realignment.

Discussion continued regarding the property repair bids and maintenance. R. Taylor presented 3 quotes to renovate 29 Hedges Street. The Committee agreed that repair cost are too high and that the tenant should be relocated to another property and 29 Hedges Street be demolished.

-Discussion of demolition activities

R. Taylor provided an update of CDBG funded demolition activities. One of the eight properties included in the request for demolition (111/133 Hedges Street) was not approved for CDBG funding through the city's Code Enforcement Division. Discussion followed regarding funding for demolition of 29 Hedges Street, relocation of tenant at 29 Hedges Street to 57/59 Hedges Street, and substituting a property for 111/113 Hedges for demolition with approved funding. If tenants are relocated to 57/59 renovation cost will be recouped through the rental of both units.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.