

**MINUTES  
AMSTERDAM URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY  
CITY HALL  
URA OFFICES, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
JANUARY 10, 2013**

**Board Members:**

Chairman Robert Martin  
Michael LaCoppola  
Anthony Pallotta  
Arthur Cotugno

**ABSENT:**

Bob Fetterly  
Michael Dayian  
Mayor Thane

**Staff:**

Nicholas Zabawsky  
Anne DeGroff

1. Meeting called to order at 6: 47 PM by Chairman Bob Martin.
2. Mr. Cotugno made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 25, 2012 meeting and this motion was seconded by Mr. Pallotta however, it is duly noted that Mr. LaCoppola was excused (rather than absent) from the October meeting as he had another meeting within City Hall at the same time.
3. Finance Report presentation by Mr. Zabawsky included the loan report and cash accounts report. Mr. Zabawsky stated that the City of Amsterdam currently owes AURA over \$20,000 and that the Administrative Assistant has provided the Deputy Controller with information regarding this in an effort to recoup these funds. Mr. Zabawsky also reported that Main Attraction had made a payment of \$200.00 and it is hoped that regular payments will follow. Centro Civico had caught up but is again 5 months behind and Mr. Zabawsky has calls in to those in charge.

The legal action related to 47 Florida Avenue is now going to be handled by Attorney Gerard DeCustatis.

Mr. Zabawsky also explained the Main Street loans, how made and that they are paid back by us when URA receives the monies from the State.

4. Chairman's Report given by Mr. Martin who informed the Board about the regular meetings which have been held and how they are working on a Land Bank program similar to that of Schenectady which will ultimately aid the City of Amsterdam.
5. Report of Grants and Projects Mr. Zabawsky provided the Board with an update on the grant programs operating in the City. He also explained that the City of Amsterdam has just received totaling \$1 Million I new grants including \$400,000for housing rehabilitation for a target area of the City on Reid Hill and another \$600,000 for the sewer system improvements which will take place in several areas of the City.
6. Old Business Mr. Zabawsky handed out copies of the proposed amendments to the URA By-Laws. This is the same set of amendments that had been proposed and discussed at earlier meetings. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. LaCoppola and seconded by Mr. Cotugno, the approved all amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business Mr. Zabawsky also distributed a proposed policy regarding discretionary funds as recommended by the State Authority Budget Office (ABO) for public authorities. On a motion by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Cotugno, this policy was approved by the Board of Directors.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Agency's Mission Statement and its major goals and objectives. On a motion made by Mr. Cotugno and seconded by Mr. LaCoppola, the board of Directors also approved the Mission Statement and Performance Goals.

Under PAAA requirements, URA needs to have an audit done by a certified auditor within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year, and the URA is already delinquent in this requirement. Historically, the Agency has coordinated its audit to be done as part of the City audit, but it is not clear when a City audit will be completed. It was concluded that the URA would have to proceed with its own audit in as timely a manner as possible. A motion was made to retain Mr. Richard DeNofio, CPA, to do this audit as he has completed prior audits of the City and would be able to accomplish an audit in an expeditious manner. With the stipulation that his fee not exceed \$4,000 a motion was made by Mr. LaCoppola and seconded by Mr. Martin and approved by the Board of Directors to retain Mr. Dinolfo to perform the audit..

8. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pallotta and seconded by Mr. LaCoppola at 7:12 PM and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Anne DeGroff  
Administrative Assistant