

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, PLANNING AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MEETING MINUTES: AUGUST 21, 2007, 2:00 PM**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members: Legislators. Lois Bronz, Chair, Kenneth Jenkins, Bernice Spreckman, Vito Pinto; Non-legislator Members: Albert Annunziata.
Committee Staff: Barbara Dodds and Andrew Ricketts.
Planning: Norma Drummond, Dana Sanchez, Phil Fiorello; Westchester Residential Opportunities: Geoffrey Anderson

Minutes Approved: 1/23/07, 4/17/07 am, 5/1/07, 5/8/07, 6/5/07, 6/20/07 and 7/31/07.

Item for Discussion: Hopwa Grant and IMA's with Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle and Yonkers

With a quorum present, Leg. Bronz opened the meeting. She introduced Geoffrey Anderson, the new Executive Director of Westchester Residential Opportunities.

Norma Drummond, Deputy Commissioner of Planning, described the Housing Opportunity for Persons With Aids grant now in the 16th year of the program. There are two acts to be approved.

- 1) Approval for the county to receive our share of the grant from New York City--one of only 14 eligible metropolitan statistical areas in the nation, based on incidence of aids. This year's grant is for \$1,896,545, \$22,000 more than last year.
- 2) Give a portion of the grant to the cities of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle. White Plains would have been eligible but has not requested any funds. Mt. Vernon for \$337,000, New Rochelle for \$79,000 and Yonkers for \$309,000. The \$1,171,545 balance of the funds would be kept by the county. Of that, the Planning Dept. would keep \$56,895 for administrative expenses and the balance goes to run a county wide program tenant-based rental assistance for households where at least one person has aids (approx. 90 families).

Leg. Jenkins asked if White Plains was part of the program would that increase or decrease the amount of our grant. Ms. Drummond said that the City recognizes that the county's rental assistance program is county wide and can serve families who live in White Plains in the event that they need help. If funds were awarded to White Plains, it would decrease the amount of money remaining for the county-wide program. Mount Vernon runs a tenants' assistance program for 10 families and Yonkers gives their grant to The Sharing Community and the Greyston organization.

A motion to approve was moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Jenkins. Unanimous vote to sign out both acts and refer to the Board.

Leg. Bronz noted there are many minutes to be approved and minutes of joint meetings with B&A are not available yet. Leg. Pinto moved approval of minutes seconded by Leg. Spreckman, all were in favor.

Leg. Bronz motioned to adjourn, moved by Leg. Pinto, seconded by Leg. Spreckman.