

Oak Bluffs
Community Development Council
Ad Hoc Fiscal Task Force Sub Committee
Task force email: obadhocfinance@gmail.com

CDC Meeting #147

Task Force Meeting # 9

Minutes of 07.27.11

9am-Town Hall Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Chairman Terry Appenzellar, Priscilla Sylvia, Fred Hancock, Robert Huss, Renee Balter, Nancy Phillips, Cathy Goudy, James Westervelt (recorder)

Non-Voting members Christine Flynn (MVC)

Also attending Abe Seimens (FinCom), Sarah Lolly Town Assessor (briefly)

Item: Minute

Minutes of meeting Ad Hoc Fiscal Task Force meeting #7 (CDC #146 on 07.13.11) were read, amended and approved.

Item: Public Comment- None

Item: Review

Terry reviewed the goals and objectives of the task force. The goals and objectives will be read at the start of all meetings to keep the task force focused.

“To review certain aspects of Town of Oak Bluffs’ fiscal situation toward resolution of projected deficits. The examination should consider future economic expectations (growth, recession) and propose revenue increases and/or spending reductions as well as efficiencies (town and regional, including privatization). The committee report should document all opportunities reviewed, including those already implemented by the Town.

Objective:

- a. develops criteria for essential Town services.**
- b. recommend efficiencies in Town operations, including cessation, privatization and regionalization.**
- c. recommend potential spending reductions.**
- d. recommend potential revenue increases.**

Item: Update

Terry updated the task force by reviewing what occurred at the BOS workshop held last week. The BOS had a laundry list of items in the hopes of finding savings for the town. The list includes long and short-term solutions. The BOS Chair Kathy Burton would like to have a select committee made up from members of the FinCom, Personnel Board, Ad Hoc Fiscal Task Force, and BOS. This committee will recommend ways to generate revenue and cut costs. The BOS are looking to cut or find \$200,000 to \$300,000.

Item: Police Dept. report

Terry reported that Chief Blake said we were not working with the appropriate numbers in our PD report. The bottom line is that we need Chief Blake to find ways to cut his budget. The strong police chief model was discussed and noted that it would take a 2/3-majority vote to change it.

Item: Fees

The task force looked at the fees charged by the town using a list compiled by the CDC approximately a year and a half ago. It was stated early on by Terry and others that the process of charging, enforcing, and collecting of fees was grossly deficient. We need to find a better way. It was suggested that Travis might know of software used by various

municipalities for this purpose. Christine volunteered to research this through her contacts at the MVC and Terry will check with Travis.

Renee suggested the BOS make a symbolic gesture by not accepting their annual stipend this year. Renee also said the task force should make immediate recommendations for the BOS to take. The task force reviewed the fee schedule looking for needed fee increases. Priscilla will re-circulate the fee schedules to each department head for updates.

Abe suggested the town use liens on property where taxes are past due. Bob suggested publishing the names of those not paying their taxes.

The task force then heard from Sarah Lolly from the assessor's office. She produced for the task force an assessor's fee schedule (updated 03.01.11) and answered many questions. The task force thanked her for her input.

Fred thought that it was important to know the length of time a license or permit entitles one to and the renewal process., (fiscal or calendar year?)

Parking on the Sunset Lake parkland was discussed. Nancy wondered where the money goes from the parking proceeds when it is used by commercial or non-town functions like the shark tournament. It was acknowledged that the Fire Department collects and keeps the proceeds for special events like the Camp Ground Illumination and the FD Fireworks display. Nancy thought that the parks department should receive something for the use of the park.

Bob brought up the lack of enforcement on the water ways fees charged for any boat moored in the Lagoon and Harbor.

Item: Public Input-None

Adjournment: 10:55 am.

Future meetings: **8.10**, 8.24, 9.14, 9.28, 10.12, 10.26, 11.9, 11.23, 12.14, 12.28, and 1.11.12.

Documents:

CDC fee recommendations from 2009, Assessor's fee schedule

Oak Bluffs
Community Development Council

Town Hall Meeting Room

07.13.11

10:25am

Members Present:

Terry Appenzellar, Priscilla Sylvia, Renee Balter, Nancy Phillips, James Westervelt (recorder)

Minutes:

The CDC did not conduct any CDC business on previous meeting day except the above ad hoc task force so there were no minutes to approve.

Adjournment 10:26 am

