

# CITY OF PORTAGE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, November 1, 2012

**CALL TO ORDER:** Approximately 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Diane Durian, Ray LaPoint, Elma (Pat) Maye, Nadeem Mirza, Edward Morgan, Sandra Sheppard, Amanda Woodin

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Kelly Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cody Dekker, Tim Wilger (Youth Advisory Committee Liaison)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Elizabeth Money, Neighborhood Program Specialist

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Durian and supported by Mirza to approve the October 4, 2012 minutes as submitted. Upon voice vote, motion passed 5-0 (Morgan and Woodin abstaining).

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Overview of Kalamazoo County Public Transportation Issues- Sean McBride: Sean McBride, Executive Director of Kalamazoo County Transit Authority (KCTA), provided a summary of activities concerning Metro Transit and KCTA including ridership information, mileage updates for routes around the County, and other funding sources, information on community vans (vans stored in locations around the county that are available for use by county businesses and groups), pending new computer system and the global positioning systems to be installed on all buses, and the future of the busing system. McBride noted there is currently discussion between Metro Transit and KCTA regarding the merger of the two programs. It is anticipated that a proposal will be ready by the end of November 2012 on how and when the merger will take place. With regards to the Portage routes, overall ridership has increased slightly more than the rest of Kalamazoo County. This is partially attributed to the new bus routes that went into effect last year. Board members asked several questions including clarification on incentives for bus riding, assistance with fares, and the lack of bus shelters at several locations. McBride indicated that they work to make routes and ridership accessible but they do not currently have incentives as fares were already subsidized and current policy states that no free rides shall be given. With regards to bus shelters, shelters are placed based on ridership figures so the more active stops receive shelters.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Rehabilitation Appeal #12-01, for 6218 Avon Street: Staff provided a summary of the appeal request. After a brief discussion on available funds and questions regarding the problem with the approval of the second (MSHDA) mortgage, LaPoint moved and Mirza seconded a motion to support an increase to the maximum amount of housing rehabilitation funding from \$10,000 to \$11,299 with an additional 15% contingency (\$1,500) if needed for 6218 Avon. Motion passed 7-0.

City Council assigned 2012-2013 Goals & Objectives: The Goals & Objectives were noted as approved.

Election of Officers and Metro Transit ADA Advisory Committee representative: With regards to Board positions, Morgan motioned and LaPoint supported the nominations of Sheppard as Chair, Durian and Vice Chair, and Maye as Secretary. Motion passed 7-0. LaPoint requested more information on the Metro Transit ADA Advisory Committee responsibility and meetings.

**STATEMENT OF CITIZENS:** Diane Schrock, Portage Community Center (PCC) indicated to the Board that PCC was gearing up for their holiday events (such as food baskets and holiday adoptions).

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Money, Neighborhood Program Specialist