

**Highlands Business Partnership  
District Management Corporation  
Highlands Business Improvement District  
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### **Special Board of Directors Meeting April 11, 2008**

The HBP Board of Directors Special Meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by the HBP President, Carla Cefalo-Braswell. The meeting was held at the Robert D. Wilson Community Center, 22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands. BP President announced that board members were given 24-hour notice according to the HBP by-laws.

Meeting Attendance: P = Present      A = Absent

L. Bodnar-Nolan	A	J. Cosgrove	P	F. Nolan	A	E. Sousa	A
J. Bollerman	P	J. Koenig	P	F. Rosiak	P	N. Thomas	P
C. Cefalo-Braswell	P	M. Takian	A	D. Shields	A	L. Cervantes	P
B. Harten	P	L. Rose	A	AJ Solomon	P	W. Weber	P
J. Filip	P						

Also in attendance was Mr. Tim Hill, Borough Representative of the Community Block Grant committee.

The meeting was called to discuss the Community Block Grant Application. Mr. Tim Hill gave a brief overview of the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Borough of Highlands would be ineligible to receive the grant this year as a municipality can apply every other year and they were funded last year. Past grants have been given for the community center, streetscape, emergency generators and other items that would improve a community. Mr. Hill explained that matched grants are looked upon favorably, but not required. The maximum that could be applied for is \$250,000. A written matched grant from the HBP would be looked upon favorably, and the matched amount could be changed verbally. Sponsorship and in-kind can be used as matched money. A public meeting must be scheduled 10 days before the deadline date of June 6, 2008.

Jim Bollerman suggested applying for the full \$250,000. Mr. Hill said that the request amount does not have to be high nor does it have to be a 50/50 match. Fred. Rosiak asked if the grant was only for visual improvements. Councilwoman Thomas-Burton said no and went on to state that only a non-profit can apply this year for Highlands. She suggested that Veterans Park is in need of improvements such as the Boardwalk, Railings, Amphitheatre, Grading, Electric, and Landscaping. Councilwoman Burton further explained that we are in need of Sidewalk Improvements along Bay Avenue. Mr. Hill explained that since Veterans Park is Green Acres and Borough owned that we would need various letters of support from those entities. Jim Filip and Mr. Hill further agreed to the importance of making sure that the park is improved for the people in our community. Fred Rosiak asked about the possibility of including a Water Taxi Landing and Carla emphasized that the application should be geared towards improvements focusing on the existing Waterfront Revitalization Plan which includes uses such as public access in Veterans Park. Mr. Koenig said that it seems that the HBP is taking over a lot of responsibilities from the borough and have been doing this on the assessment that the businesses are taxed. He would like to see HBP apply annually for projects such as Façade and other programs that directly affect the Businesses directly. Jim Filip asked what other projects could be undertaken to improve the businesses and community. Carla informed the Board that this discussion was for the ED Committee meeting and should be a priority to discuss the future projects opportunities and applications. Carla Cefalo-Braswell made a motion to support the Community Block Grant Application for Veterans Park Improvements. Jim Filip was very supportive about meeting to discuss future plans, however since the deadline is approaching, he seconds the motion to move to support the Veterans Park Application. All were in favor and the motion carried. Councilwoman Burton and Carla would meet with HBP consultant Kathy Shaw to proceed with completing the application. HBP will notice the public meeting accordingly.

A motion was made to adjourn by Councilwoman Nancy Burton and second by Fred Rosiak. The meeting adjourned at 1:05.

#### Dates to Remember

June 6, 2008: Application deadline

Aug. 6, 11, 20, 2008: Presentations to the selection committee

Sept. 8, 2008: Community Block Grants committee ranks applicants in order of need

Nov. 2008: Recommendations to Freeholders

March 2009: Decision