

**Rocky Mountain Development Council
Board of Directors' Meeting
March 18, 2010
Neighborhood Center Card Room**

Members present: Daniel Pocha, Bill Roberts, Helen Fandrich, Sue Prout, Jerry Loendorf, Andrea Edgar, Andy Hunthausen, Twila Harrington, Dave Kirsch, and Rachel Haberman.

Members absent: Elaine Graveley, Marvin Williams, Debbie Havens, Jon Chacopulos, and Matt Kuntz.

President Andy Hunthausen called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm and welcomed everyone.

Because a majority of Board members were not present at the February 18, 2010, Board meeting, Jerry Loendorf recommended the Board approve all action items approved at the February 18, 2010, meeting.

Bill Roberts moved to approve all action items discussed and previously approved at the February 18, 2010, Board meeting without having a majority of Board members. Jerry Loendorf seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Daniel Pocha moved to approve the February 18, 2010, minutes with the amended approval of all action items approved March 18, 2010. Helen Fandrich seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Housing Update – Gene Leuwer

Gene reported that the bid opening for the Big Boulder project took place on Monday, March 15, 2010. Twelve general contractors submitted bids, which ranged from a high of \$5.7 to a low of \$4.8 million. The low bidder is a large family owned construction company, McAlvain Construction, out of Boise, ID. RMDC will issue a notice of intent to award the bid and continue the process to contract with McAlvain. So far reference checks have been very positive. Their last big project was adding two new wings to the State Capitol building in Boise. Proposed funding sources for the project are as follows:

-	HOME	\$ 500,000
-	CDBG (not likely needed)	\$ 450,000
-	Tax Credit	\$6,959,515
-	Permanent	<u>\$ 165,000</u>
	TOTAL	\$7,624,515

The ground breaking will be scheduled in the near future as construction is scheduled to start at the end of April or early May.

Part of the requirement to receive the HOME funding is to have the Board approve a Resolution that authorizes and directs RMDC to allocate the funding as listed on the Resolution and assures RMDC will follow regulations for the funding. RMDC will be able to access the tax credit money sooner than originally thought.

Bill Roberts moved to approve the Resolution authorizing RMDC to accept the HOME Grant funding for the Big Boulder Residences project and to allocate the said amount to the following program activities and the appropriation shall become effective on March 18, 2010:

448/44803/44805/8001	-	\$421,000
448/44804/44805/8006	-	<u>\$ 79,000</u>
TOTAL:		\$500,000

Eagle Manor II

Gene reported that the project is in the final wrap up stages with all expenses paid. Jeff anticipates a deferred Developer Fee of approximately \$8,200. This is due to the project delays in getting final equity payment causing the interest to accumulate to more than RMDC had budgeted. The good news is that the project was completed on schedule and very close to budget.

High School House 2009/2010

The project located at 858 Insulator is on schedule for completion the end of May. Jeff would be glad to schedule a tour when he gets back from vacation. If anyone is interested, give him a call. The Open House will be scheduled toward the end of May.

Townsend Homestead Manor

This project is a 10 unit property in Townsend for seniors. The required Environment Assessment began on Monday of this week. The report will give important information on what will need to be remediated, if anything, and how best to stage the project for residents' safety. RMDC continues to work with HOME to get the property paper work lined up, have the contract in place and release of funds to be ready to close on the acquisition once RMDC has Rural Development's approval in hand.

Caird Project

RMDC is working with the owners to submit a request for a change in zoning to the City of Helena. RMDC expects to hear about the NSP funding sometime between June and August. If the project receives the zoning change, the NSP funding will be necessary to get the project started.

Head Start Director's Report – Patty Dahl

Patty handed out a packet of information. The first page was the Head Start data on enrollment, attendance, meals, credit card expenditures, well-child exams and dentals completed, children on IEP's (Individual Education Plans), etc. The other information consisted of an Information Memorandum in regard to Head Start's Training and Technical Assistance System and a Program Instruction in regard to Head Start's funding increase. Patty reminded members of the 1.84% COLA from last summer's Stimulus Funding that was to only be for a 12 month period for Head Start staff. The Program Instruction she handed out explained that the 1.84% COLA will become permanent. Patty has not received information from the Regional Office informing Head Start Programs how to apply for the permanent funding. However, when the information is received, Head Start will bring a Grant Amendment to the Board for approval. She also reminded everyone that Friends of Head Start's Extravaganza is scheduled for April 22 at 6:00 pm at Valley Farms.

2009 – 2010 Self-Assessment

The Self-Assessment group met Tuesday evening to begin finalizing this year's Head Start Program Self-Assessment. Patty thanked Helen Fandrich, Debbie Havens, Marvin Williams, Andrea Edgar, and Sue Prout for their commitment to this year's Self-Assessment and Daniel Pocha and Twila Harrington for their past assistance. The Program hopes to have the report and Improvement Plans to the Board and Policy Council at their April meeting. At this point, there appears to be no areas of non-compliance.

Obesity Prevention Committee

Patty thanked Rachel Haberman and Daniel Pocha for attending Head Start's first Obesity Prevention Committee meeting. The group is well represented by Head Start, RMDC Board and the Lewis & Clark City-County Health Department. The hope is to have an Implementation Plan for Obesity Prevention in place by September 2010 for the Program's children, families and staff.

Board Basket for Extravaganza

Bill Roberts reported that he and Daniel Pocha are working together to put a tool basket together for Extravaganza. Rose will send a reminder email to Board members to contact her if they would like to contribute. Andy Hunthausen thanked Bill and Daniel for taking that project on.

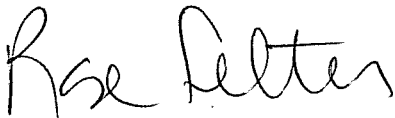
Family Literacy Training

Patty gave a preview of the upcoming dinner and the training Kathryn Bell, a contractor from the National Head Start Family Literacy Center, will present shortly. Patty reminded members that three or four years ago, RMDC's Head Start Program applied for a Family Literacy Grant. RMDC was one program out of 92 programs nationwide elected to participate in the training. Patty is not sure if Head Start will extend funding for Family Literacy training but RMDC's Head Start Program would like to continue with the training and focus; family literacy is embedded into the program and the program has met many of the goals that were set.

Patty also relayed that tonight's dinner was provided by Mountain West Bank for Head Start reaching their goal of 35,000 minutes of Reading Instead of Television (RIOT). Mountain West Bank also gave Head Start \$500 to purchase books; this money is used as non-federal support to buy age appropriate books through the RIF (Reading is Fundamental) program at very low costs. The books are then given to all Head Start children to take home 3-4 times per year. Books are also given to all children (regardless of their age) at Family Literacy events the program holds.

Daniel Pocha moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm. Helen Fandrich seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Rose Felter
Executive Assistant