MEMORANDUM

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EDHS
Agenda Item No. 5(A)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson and Members, Economic Development & Human Services Committee

DATE: December 12, 2007

FROM: Kay M. Sullivan
Director, Clerk of the Board Division

SUBJECT: Approval of Commission Committee Minutes

The Clerk of the Board's office is submitting the following Clerk's Summary of Minutes for approval by the Economic Development and Human Services Committee:

October 10, 2007

KMS/js
Attachment

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
CLERK'S SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
Economic Development and Human Services Committee (EDHSC)

Board of County Commissioners
Stephen P. Clark Government Center
Commission Chambers
111 N.W. First Street
Miami, Florida 33128

October 10, 2007
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Jovel Shaw, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-1289

Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF
Meeting Minutes
Economic Development and Human Services Committee

Audrey M. Edmonson (3) Chair; Katy Sorenson (8) Vice Chair; Commissioners Barbara J. Jordan (1), Dennis C. Moss (9), and Javier D. Souto (10)

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 **9:30 AM** **COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

Members Present: Audrey M. Edmonson, Barbara J. Jordan, Katy Sorenson.

Members Absent: None.

Members Late: Dennis C. Moss, Javier D. Souto.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Report: *Jovel Shaw, Commission Reporter, (305) 375-1289*

1A INVOCATION

1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Report: *The Committee convened in a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.*

1C ROLL CALL

Report: *The following staff members were present: Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry, Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks; and Deputy Clerks Jovel Shaw and Jill Thornton.*

1D OPENING REMARKS CHAIRPERSON EDMONSON

Report: *Chairwoman Edmonson called the meeting to order at 9:57 a.m. and expressed appreciation to her colleagues for attending today's Committee meeting, and the October 3, 2007, Sunshine meeting of the Committee. She announced the scheduling of a special Committee meeting for Wednesday, October 24, 2007, and noted this meeting would be the public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidation Action Plan for fiscal year 2008. In addition, on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, the Committee would host a Foreclosure Hearing in conjunction with the Housing Finance Authority and the Miami-Dade Affordable Housing Foundation. She explained this forum would be an opportunity to hear from the financing industry and other organizations seeking to address the overwhelming number of foreclosures in the County along with the foreclosure victims. Chairwoman Edmonson stated she would like committee members to provide suggestions on how the County Commission could address the foreclosure issue at the close of the Foreclosure Hearing.*

Chairwoman Edmonson asked Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks and staff to provide a status report on the Empowerment Trust at the end of today's (10/10) agenda. In addition, she requested that Agenda Items 1E2 and 6C be deferred due to the Committee request to schedule another Sunshine meeting to further review additional information regarding the Metro-Miami Action Plan.

Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks apprised the Committee of the requested changes outlined in the October 10, 2007, County Manager's memorandum entitled, "Requested Changes to the Economic Development and Human Services Committee Agenda" and the addition of Agenda Item 6E an oral report regarding the Empowerment Trust and the deferral of Agenda Item 6C.

Commissioner Jordan requested that the Sunshine meeting occur in the conventional forum and not in the Commission Chambers. She suggested that the conference rooms located in the Stephen P.

Clark Center or any other available location.

Chairwoman Edmonson noted she supported Commissioner Jordan's comments. She reminded the Committee members any Sunshine meeting was open for public comment and would be scheduled in the forum requested by Commissioner Jordan.

Hearing no objection, it was moved by Commissioner Sorenson that the changes to today's Committee agenda be approved. This motion was seconded by Chairwoman Edmonson, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 3-0 (Commissioners Moss and Souto were absent).

1E PUBLIC HEARING(S)

1E1

072348 **Ordinance** **Bruno A. Barreiro**

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-11.14.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO AMEND THE PURPOSE OF THE FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT ADVISORY BOARD TO INCLUDE SUPPORTING THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY AND TO AMEND ITS POWERS TO INCLUDE SOLICITING SPONSORS FOR FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY NETWORKING EVENTS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Withdrawn

Report: *See Agenda Item 1E1 Substitute; Legislative File No. 073022.*

1E1 SUB.

073022 **Ordinance** **Bruno A. Barreiro**

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-11.14.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO AMEND THE PURPOSE OF THE FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT ADVISORY BOARD TO INCLUDE SUPPORTING THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY AND TO AMEND ITS POWERS TO INCLUDE SOLICITING SPONSORS FOR FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY NETWORKING EVENTS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 072348]

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing proposed ordinance into the record.*

Mr. Jeff Peel, Director, Miami-Dade County Office of Film and Entertainment, explained the intent of the foregoing proposed ordinance.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding the feedback for Film and Entertainment permit fees, Mr. Peel informed the Committee that the industry expressed that the $100.00 permit fee was reasonable. He noted that a period of adjustment and implementation would occur in early November 2007. Mr. Peel pointed out these efforts were similar to a pilot program because the County has never done this before and staff intended to meet with the film and entertainment industry to discuss the proposed ordinance and the permit fee process. He indicated staff would track and monitor the progress of this proposal.

Hearing no objection, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed ordinance as presented.

Chairwoman Edmonson opened the public hearing. Hearing no one wishing to speak before the Committee, Chairwoman Edmonson closed the public hearing.

1E2

072467 **Ordinance** **Economic Development and Human Services Committee**

ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XLVII OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Deferred to no date certain
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Edmonson
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *During consideration of changes to today's agenda, the Committee deferred the foregoing proposed ordinance as requested by Chairwoman Edmonson.*

1E3

072949 **Resolution**

RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE OF TRANSPORTATION NO. 329 FROM BRICKELL TRANSPORTATION, INC. TO QUALITY LIMO SERVICE, CORP. D/B/A QLS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO PROVIDE SPECIAL OPERATIONS SERVICES AS A PASSENGER MOTOR CARRIER (Consumer Services Department)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Chairwoman Edmonson opened the public hearing. Hearing no one wishing to speak before the Committee, Chairwoman Edmonson closed the public hearing.

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed ordinance as presented.

2 COUNTY COMMISSION

2A

072678 **Resolution** **Barbara J. Jordan**

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST TO DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING DISCHARGE POLICIES FOR AGENCIES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WHO PROVIDE SERVICES TO OR FOR PERSONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Withdrawn

Report: *See Agenda Item 2A Substitute; Legislative File No. 073026.*

2A SUB.

073026 **Resolution** **Barbara J. Jordan**

RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING DATE ESTABLISHED BY R-432-07 FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST TO REPORT TO THE BOARD REGARDING PROPOSED MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING DISCHARGE POLICES BETWEEN AGENCIES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WHO PROVIDE SERVICES TO OR FOR PERSONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS [SEE ORIGINAL ITEM UNDER FILE NO. 072678]

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Jordan
Seconder: Sorenson
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Commissioner Jordan explained the intent of the foregoing proposed resolution.

Hearing no objection, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution as presented.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's question regarding the difference from the original proposed resolution, Commissioner Jordan noted the difference between the substitute and the original proposal was that the substitute extended the 90 day reporting period to 180 days.

2B

072886 **Resolution** **Katy Sorenson, Dennis C. Moss**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING NINA BETANCOURT, STUART ARCHER, RENE INFANTE, DANIEL LIPE, MOE KAKSSA AND KENNETH FORBES TO THE NARANJA LAKES COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Edmonson
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution as presented.

3 DEPARTMENTS

4 COUNTY MANAGER

4A

072969 **Resolution**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR'S OR HIS DESIGNEE'S ACTION IN APPLYING FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM THE CDBG 2005 DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ADDRESSING HURRICANE WILMA, OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND GRANT FUNDS, EXECUTE SUCH CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS AS REQUIRED; APPLY FOR, RECEIVE, AND EXPEND ADDITIONAL FUNDS; FILE AND EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY AMENDMENTS; AND EXERCISE AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION, RENEWAL, CANCELLATION, AND TERMINATION PROVISIONS OF ANY RESULTING CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS (County Manager)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing proposed resolution into the record.*

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing proposed resolution as presented.

5 CLERK OF THE BOARD

5A

072952 **Report**

CLERK'S SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 1, 2007 (BUDGET WORKSHOP) AND SEPTEMBER 12, 2007 (Clerk of the Board)

Approved
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Edmonson
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing report into the record.*

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing report as presented.

6 REPORTS

6A

072962 **Report**

FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAHSA TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS (County Manager)

Report Received
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing report into the record.*

Commissioner Sorenson questioned the Community Affordable Housing Strategies Alliance (CAHSA) Task Force recommendation CMO-2 and the status of the Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA) awaiting the authority to expend $4.8 million in Sunshine Bond funds to perform safety and security improvements in 66 public housing developments.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry, Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, informed the Committee that the $4.8 million was part of the Sunshine loan pool of funds and the Board had not approved that item yet. Ms. Curry noted some of the incurred expenses were paid.

Assistant County Attorney Gerald Heffernan informed the Committee of issues raised by the full Board of County Commissioners during its consideration of the $4.8 million on how the funds should be utilized; therefore, the approval of the $4.8 million expenditure by the Board was deferred.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding bringing the item back, Ms. Curry stated she would confer with the Finance Department Director and provide a response whether or not a request to bring the item back was necessary.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding recommend CMO-3 pertaining to providing equipped playground space on public housing premises, Ms Kris Warren, Director, Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA), informed the Committee that MDHA would pursue any available funding to provide updated and new playground equipment. She noted capital projects to replace roofs, elevators, and building systems were a priority. Ms. Warren pointed out Mr. Dan

Wall, Assistant Director, Office of Strategic Business Management would seek grants for this effort.

Commissioner Sorenson suggested the use of Commission discretionary funds in the respective Commission districts. She pointed out she would use her Commission discretionary funds for playgrounds in Commission Districts 8 and 9, and asked Ms. Warren to inform her of those playgrounds where the need existed.

Commissioner Jordan asked Ms. Warren if the MDHA staff explored the possibility of the Children's Trust as a funding source for this effort; and recommended that MDHA explore the Trust's potential.

Regarding recommendation CMO-4, Commissioner Sorenson recommended healthy foods be considered for vending machines at various elderly sites to provide greater access to food products.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's comments regarding recommendation CMO-10, Ms. Warren noted the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (US HUD) oversight administrator would conduct the analysis of the rent data and make appropriate recommendations for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. She informed the Committee of staff efforts to perform an analysis of the current rent standard(s) applicable to US HUD tenant-based rental assistance programs operated in Miami-Dade County. Ms. Warren noted she would recommend that it rental rates remained the standard; therefore, more opportunities for families to participate in this program would be available.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's comments pertaining to recommendation CMO-12, Mr. Jose Cintron, Director, Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED), informed the Committee that most of the $30 million in the mid-year Request for Application (RFA) that was issued in July 2007 was reprogrammed.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's comments pertaining to recommendation CMO-52, Mr. Cintron informed the Committee that OCED had relative Countywide housing data and would provide that information to the Committee.

He further noted the report would reflect a breakdown housing data of all thirteen commission districts.

Chairwoman Edmonson asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to separate all of the Community Affordable Housing Strategies Alliance (CAHSA) Task Force recommendations contained in this report requiring formal action, and to prepare this information in the form of a resolution or an ordinance for discussion and possible sponsorship by the Committee.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing report as presented.

6B

072963 **Report**

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING INTERVENTION AND MASTER PLAN (County Manager)

Report Received
Mover: Jordan
Seconder: Sorenson
Vote: 4-0
Absent: Moss

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing report into the record.*

Hearing no questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing report as presented.

6C

072965 **Report**

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF A MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (County Manager)

Deferred to no date certain
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Edmonson
Vote: 3-0
Absent: Moss, Souto

Report: *During consideration of changes to today's agenda, the Committee deferred the foregoing report as requested by Chairwoman Edmonson.*

6D

072984 **Report**

REPORT ON RECERTIFICATION INITIATIVE FOR MDHA SECTION 8 FAMILIES (County Manager)

Report Received
Mover: Sorenson
Seconder: Jordan
Vote: 4-0
Absent: Moss

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing report into the record.*

Chairwoman Edmonson commended Ms. Kris Warren, Director, Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA), and staff for making the necessary improvements to MDHA that reduced Section 8 recertification from 60% to less than ½ percent in 9 months.

Commissioner Jordan questioned how long it had been since the County conducted an assessment of the Section 8 rental rates.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry, Ms. Warren advised the Committee that the rental rates were adjusted every year based on United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (US HUD) fair market rent standards. Therefore, MDHA would adjust the rates accordingly and present those rates to the Board. She noted a large number of landlords participated in the Section 8 program and staff was notifying them to adjust the rental rates.

Commissioner Jordan asked if consistency between the various housing agencies was seen based on the annual rate review of the rate charged, such as the City of Miami Beach, and the City of Hialeah.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry, Ms. Warren noted the housing rental rate was based on the market of the area.

Commissioner Jordan asked that consistency in the rental rates be established because some of the County's Section 8 tenants transferred to other housing agencies with increased rental rates. Therefore, the public complained that the County's process was not equitable.

Ms. Warren stated when she arrived at MDHA many Section 8 landlords had not been notified of rent increases for several years. She noted a rate

increase was not made in 2004 and 2005. Ms. Warren pointed out notification to landlords was part of the Recertification Initiative for MDHA Section 8 families.

Ms. Warren proceeded to provide an overview of the foregoing report. She apprised the Committee of the MDHA Section 8 staff's efforts during this recertification process and its efforts to proactively maintain the schedule for participant recertification. Ms. Warren expressed her appreciation to everyone who played a part in this process.

Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, noted the recertification was an item that US HUD indicated the County was in default as part of the US HUD takeover.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding the number of Section 8 families, Ms. Warren noted the original number was 6,800 families that required recertification. She noted this number was reduced to 4,200 and 1,300 final notices were mailed to these families informing them that they would be terminated if they failed to recertify.

Commissioner Sorenson asked Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA), Director, Kris Warren to prepare a press release on the successful outcome of the Recertification Initiative for MDHA Section 8 Families.

Commissioner Jordan recognized and commended Ms. Warren on her leadership and efforts during the Section 8 recertification process.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote on the foregoing report as presented.

6E

073029 **Report**

ORAL REPORT RE: EMPOWERMENT TRUST (County Manager) ***Report Received***

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks read the foregoing report into the record.*

Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, provided the Committee with an oral report on the Miami-Dade Empowerment Trust. She noted the County Manager's staff had been meeting with the Empowerment Trust and a representative from the advisory board. She highlighted and informed the Committee of the following issues:

- the transfer of the Empowerment Trust staff into available County positions with the exception of two individuals;
-tthe remaining two individuals would remain with the Trust, as a separate entity, and work with the County Manager's staff to address business issues since the County had used the Trust to implement the County's Strategic Plan;
-the discussion with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (US HUD) to help the County through disposition of the remaining Trust income and assets;
-the remaining $3.9 million federal empowerment zone funding that was frozen;
-the loan portfolios and associated program income for those portfolios that staff was working on with the Empowerment Trust;
-the Community Development Revolving (CDR) Loan Funds Section 108, Brownfield Economic Development Initiative and other initiatives now managed by the Office of Community and Economic Development;
-the loan portfolio that dealt with capital funds using the County General Fund and other federal empowerment zone loans valued at $8.8 million;
-the County discussions with the Empowerment Trust regarding the disposition of that CDR loan portfolio and the program income associated with it;
-the homes sold at the Village of Saint Agnes that generated approximately $2.7 million and was placed in an escrow account by Holland and Knight, and discussions with the Empowerment Trust to determine the percentages of those funds to be returned to the County;
-the usage of approximately $10 million of the

County's Surtax funds for the Village of Saint Agnes project;
-the transfer of the Poinciana Industrial Center to the General Services Administration from the Empowerment Trust who was the master developers for this center;
-the conveyance of ten (10) infill parcels to the Empowerment Trust as approved by the Board and the Trust agreement to return those parcels to the County;
-the status of the NW 7th Avenue Transit hub, without further involvement by the Empowerment Trust, and issues that the County, MDHA and US HUD were addressing with the Empowerment Trust to have the appropriate final disposition of all Empowerment Trust program incomes and assets;
-the correspondence sent to the County's Empowerment Trust partners, the City of Miami, the City of Homestead and the City of Florida City, advising them of the Empowerment Trust's status; and
-the discussions with US HUD in terms of the final disposition for the Empowerment Trust.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry regarding any funds earmarked by the Empowerment Trust for the Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Transit Building, Ms. Curry noted the Trust would have used its own program income or revenue from Miami-Dade Transit for the MLK Transit Building. She further noted she was not aware of any funding earmarked for this building.

Chairwoman Edmonson questioned Federal and local funds earmarked for projects not completed.

Responding to Chairwoman Edmonson's inquiry, Ms. Curry stated the Empowerment Zone Strategic Plan had a lengthy list of projects to undertake, but the Trust did not have the Federal funds to undertake them. Therefore, the Trust used real estate or property development to earn income for the Strategic Plan.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry regarding whether staff explored other methods of securing the $3.9 million of federal empowerment zone funding, Ms. Curry apprised the Committee that staff along with the County partners Cities of Miami, Homestead, and Florida were exploring how to secure the $3.9 million.

Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to provide a

written report to this Committee outlining the status of projects funded by the Miami-Dade County Empowerment Trust.

Commissioner Jordan questioned whether during the creation of the empowerment zone was the County required to create an Empowerment Trust.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's comments, Ms. Curry noted in the County's application for the empowerment zone, the County indicated it would create a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Therefore, in the County's preliminary discussion with US HUD the County indicated the creation of a Trust. She reminded the Committee of the huge public participation in the creation of the Trust; and noted US HUD had indicated a similar process should be used, and if the County deviated or amended its submitted application, the County would have to follow a similar process to make changes.

Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to conduct some research to identify entities comparable to the County's Empowerment Trust that have deviated from the conventional model.

Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks indicated that she would conduct research as requested by Commissioner Jordan and report her findings to the Committee.

Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to provide a list of the parcels that comprised the Poinciana Industrial Park area.

Ms. Curry noted efforts to salvage as much as the County could for the Poinciana Industrial Park project. She noted the involvement of the General Services Agreement and the County Attorney's Office in addressing this project.

Commissioner Jordan expressed concern regarding possible confusion by the County creating an entity parallel to the Empowerment Trust while the Trust continued to function as an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's comments, Ms. Curry noted the County must engage with US HUD to move forward.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's

comments regarding the percentage of Empowerment zone loans versus grants, Ms. Curry advised Commissioner Sorenson that the Empowerment zone funding was not all loans and the Empowerment Trust provided grants to community-based organizations. She noted she would research the actual numbers and provide Commissioner Sorenson this information.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Sorenson and Ms. Curry regarding the outstanding amount of loans owed to the Trust and the recovery of funding by the County.

Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to prepare a report outlining the Empowerment Trust's accomplishments and the actual funding amount the Trust provided to other entities.

Ms. Curry noted she would request that information from the Trust and submit her findings to the Committee as a part of the report requested by Commissioner Jordan.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Committee received the foregoing report.

7 OPEN DISCUSSION(S)

7A

073014 **Discussion Item** **Dennis C. Moss**

CBO FUNDING

Presented
Mover: Jordan
Seconder: Moss
Vote: 5-0

Report: *Chairwoman Edmonson announced the deferral of the foregoing discussion item due to the absence of Commissioner Moss, the sponsor of the item.*

Later in the meeting, upon the arrival of Commissioner Moss, it was moved by Commissioner Jordan that the foregoing discussion item be reconsidered. Chairwoman Edmonson seconded this motion.

Commissioner Moss noted he requested the foregoing discussion item due to the number of concerns raised by community-based organizations (CBOs). He noted the Board adopted a budget to fund the CBOs at 85% of its funding level for fiscal year 2006-07; and that the 15% decrease created difficulties for some organizations.

Chairwoman Edmonson noted she received calls from CBOs requesting she use her Commission District Discretionary funds to address the funding gaps.

Responding to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding the number of CBOs for human services related activities in the County, Ms. Cynthia Curry, Senior Advisor to the County Manager, noted she would consult with the Office of Strategic Business Management to provide a response to Commissioner Sorenson's question.

Commissioner Sorenson stated that CBOs may have to consider another model for their operation; and that they would no longer receive a lot of funding support from the County. She suggested that similar CBOs consider consolidating to use the best experts. She noted the discretionary funds could be an option and noted other sources of discretionary funds. Commissioner Sorenson stated the CBO process needed to be professionalized to ensure it was results-oriented.

Chairwoman Edmonson concurred with Commissioner Sorenson that CBOs needed to stop

depending upon governmental entities for funding. She suggested that CBOs consider seeking private funding.

Commissioner Moss noted most CBOs were grass root organizations and would not receive support from corporate America or the private industry. He stressed the need to review the CBO funding process to develop alternative approaches to fund these organizations.

Commissioner Jordan concurred with Commissioners Sorenson and Moss. She noted the Alliance for Human Services should provide crisis management for CBOs. Commissioner Jordan noted some CBOs were making a difference and lacked the resources for sufficient staff. She discussed the need for the Board to review the large organizations and the fund these organizations at 50% instead of 85%. She suggested the County consider the following three (3) issues:

(1) that the Alliance for Human Services and/or the United Way review the similar operations and functions for CBOs and develop shared responsibilities to save resources;
(2) that the County determine whether larger CBOs should be treated the same as smaller CBOs and develop a County policy; and
(3) that the County seek and identify additional resources for CBO funding.

Commissioner Sorenson concurred with Commissioner Moss and noted her experience with a grass root organization. She stressed the need to build the capacity of smaller organizations to operate. In addition, these organizations should be held accountable and perhaps paired with larger and/or successful organizations. She expressed the County was responsible to fund the large organizations and to ensure that the smaller organizations obtained funding for their good work.

Commissioner Souto supported the views of his colleagues. He stressed the need to work with the CBOs to ensure accountability.

Chairwoman Edmonson stressed the need to identify a solution to the CBO funding process and to fund those that were making a difference in this community.

Commissioner Moss noted the CBOs must be

accountable and the County should assist them in building their capacity. He spoke in support of the results oriented goals/objectives, and the creation of an environment where grass roots CBOs could function and provide services to this community.

Commissioner Jordan asked Senior Advisor to the County Manager Cynthia Curry to identify additional funding sources, including the County's reserves, for the Community-based organization (CBO) Funding Process and to submit a funding recommendation at the November 14, 2007, Committee meeting.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote to receive the foregoing discussion item pending the submittal of a funding recommendation at the next Committee meeting scheduled for November 14, 2007.

8 ADJOURNMENT

Report: *There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.*