

## MINUTES – PUBLIC HEARING

WILSON/DEERFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
WINDOR COMMUNITY CENTER  
330 WINDSOR AVENUE  
WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

The January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 public hearing hosted by the Wilson/Deerfield Advisory Committee was opened at 7:05 p.m.

Jim Hallisey read the legal notice into the record (copy attached). It was noted that the hearing was being held to solicit comment on 1) the Town's existing community development initiatives, 2) the needs of the community in general, and the needs of low/moderate income residents in particular, and 3) suggestions for activities for which the Town should apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Small Cities funds.

Hallisey briefly explained the CDBG Program. It was noted that, in order to be eligible for funds, an activity must meet one of the three national objectives. They are 1) provide benefit to low/moderate income persons, 2) eliminate slums and blight and 3) meet an urgent community development need for which no other funding is available. Eligible activities include 1) the rehabilitation of public and private buildings, 2) infrastructure improvements, 3) public services, 4) demolition, 5) acquisition of real property 6) assistance to for-profit entities for the creation of jobs for low/moderate income persons.

It was further noted that activities fall under the classification of direct benefit or area-wide benefit. An example of a direct benefit activity would be the Town's Housing Rehabilitation Program where a household would have to qualify as low/moderate income in order to participate. Activities deemed to provide area-wide benefit, typically infrastructure improvements or community facilities, can be undertaken in areas where they predominately serve low and moderate income.

Hallisey opened the hearing for public comment.

Jon Sassportas suggested that funds be used to install a traffic light at the juncture of Route 159 (Windsor Avenue) and Corey Street. He noted that 1) the approval of Benjamin Commons reduced the number of curb cuts onto Route 159 and that many of the vehicles utilizing the establishments within Benjamin Commons will be entering and leaving via Corey Street, 2) the bank currently under construction at the corner of Corey Street and Windsor Avenue will generate additional traffic, and 3) there is already considerable traffic as result of the Caring Connection/PAL Center and the adjacent gas

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station, and 4) since he's been working at Benjamin Commons he has seen a number of number of motor vehicle accidents at the vicinity of Corey Street and Windsor Avenue.

Bradshaw Smith suggested that the Town apply for funds to renovate the Wilson Branch Library. It was noted that improvements to the Wilson Branch have been a concern of the Wilson Deerfield Advisory Committee for some time.

Randy Graff suggested that the Town apply for funds for the Town's Housing Rehabilitation Program. He no

The public hearing was closed at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

James J. Hallisey  
The Office of Community Development