

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: March 30, 2009

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:53 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Kent Smith, Chairman
Virginia Cain
Jeff Cardwell
José Evans
Brian Mahern
Dane Mahern
Janice McHenry
Jackie Nytes
Lincoln Plowman

Absent Members

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 105, 2009 - appoints Gordon Smith to the Indianapolis Housing Agency Board of Directors
"Do Pass" Vote: 9-0

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council met on Monday, March 30, 2009. Chairman Kent Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Virginia Cain, Jeff Cardwell, José Evans, Brian Mahern, Dane Mahern, Janice McHenry, Jackie Nytes, and Lincoln Plowman.

PROPOSAL NO. 105, 2009 - appoints Gordon Smith to the Indianapolis Housing Agency Board of Directors

Chairman Smith said that he has known Mr. Smith for many years as a military soldier and he has held several leadership positions. Chairman Smith said that Mr. Smith takes control of diverse situations and brings order to those situations.

Gordon Smith stated that he has had a lot of military experience and plans to retire from the military next month. He said that he is the 68th Whisky Coordinator for the State of Indiana and took care of all of the medical personnel in the state. He said that he made sure the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) are re-certified, current with their training and meet the standards to stay in the military. Mr. Smith said that he worked at the Iraq Embassy for two years in the medical department with the Iraq State Department helping to build new clinics during their 2005 and 2006 elections. Mr. Smith said that he has also been involved with the Indiana Counsel on Foreign Affairs in several different capacities. He is currently working on his PHD in Political Science at Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis.

Councillor Cardwell asked if there are special things that Mr. Smith plans to bring to the table with the Indianapolis Housing Agency board. Mr. Smith said that it is very important to look at how the situation is and the way it exists. He said that he prefers to gather information first and then act on the problem.

Councillor Dane Mahern said that Mr. Smith's resume shows some things that will be very helpful and beneficial when addressing the housing problem. Mr. Smith said that every experience is a learning opportunity and he appreciates this opportunity.

Councillor Nytes asked what it is about the Indianapolis Housing Agency that is appealing. Mr. Smith said that housing is one of the basic needs that every individual has. He said that the housing industry is a part of the launch of the economic crisis. The current housing situation affects every American. Councillor Nytes asked Mr. Smith if he is familiar with the Indianapolis Housing Agency. Mr. Smith answered in the negative. Councillor Nytes said that most of what the Housing Agency handles is apartment rental, for which the local government provides no revenue. She said that there is a lot of help needed in this area and also a lot of opportunity to do better in the future.

Chairman Smith asked if Mr. Smith has missed any drill sessions while in the military. Mr. Smith answered in the negative.

Councillor Plowman moved, seconded by Councillor Cardwell, to forward Proposal No. 105, 2009 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 9-0.

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Conclusion

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Smith, Chairman
Metropolitan Development Committee

KS/rjp