Planning & Development Committee Meeting
Minutes of April 26, 2010
City Council Chambers – 7:05 pm
(or 15 minutes after the Administration Public Works (A&PW) meeting adjourns)
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

ALDERMEN PRESENT: D. Holmes, L. Jean-Baptiste, A. Rainey, D. Wilson, M. Wynne

STAFF PRESENT: C. Caneva, B. Dunkley, G. Farrar, D. Marino, B. Newman L. Walker

PRESIDING OFFICIAL: Ald. Rainey

DECLARATION OF QUORUM
A quorum being present, Chair Rainey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE April 13, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the April 13, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously 5-0.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

(P1) Resolution 28-R-10 Reserving $6,992,370 of the City's Bond Volume Cap Allocation for the Year 2010 for Single-Family Housing and the Industrial/Commercial Revenue Bond Program
Ald. Wynne moved approval, seconded by Ald. Jean-Baptiste.

Chair Rainey commented that the text is misleading where it says the 2010 Bond Volume Cap is for single family homes and industrial grant programs.

Mr. Marino replied that the City desires maximum flexibility in its usage of the bond volume cap allocation. It is normally used for industrial activity but can be used for some qualifying single family home programs such as First Time Homebuyers Program. In response to a question, he explained that the advantage to using the bond volume cap allocation is a lower than average interest rate than market rates.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 in favor of recommending approval of Resolution 28-R-10.

(P2) Approval of Sidewalk Café for Bistro Bordeaux, 618 Church St

Chair Rainey asked whether there are standardized restrictions based on space. She asked whether there was any discussion at the SPAARC meeting related to the hours of operation of Bistro Bordeaux. She commented that there would only be 3 tables.
Mr. Pascal Berthomieux, owner of Bistro Bordeaux said that 3 tables are better than none.

Ald. Jean-Baptiste asked whether square footage is the criteria used to approve sidewalk cafés. Chair Rainey said the 6’ right of way is applied across the board.

Ald. Holmes said the issue last year for Las Palmas’ sidewalk café was the proximity to residential neighbors’ windows.

The Committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of the sidewalk café.

(P3) Ordinance 27-O-10 Amending Portions of City Code Section 2-8-11 and Amending Portions of Ordinance 133-O-08 Related to Records of Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and Plan Commission Meetings and Fees for Certain Applications to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Ald. Wilson moved approval, seconded by Ald. Wynne

Chair Rainey noted that the ordinance reduces the cost of processing applications.

The committee voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend approval of Ordinance 27-O-10.

COMMUNICATIONS
(PD1) Update on Evanston Foreclosure Activity in March, 2010
Ald. Jean-Baptiste commented that foreclosures have diminished over the past month and that the majority of the new ones are from adjustable rate mortgages. He asked Mr. Walker to arrange a meeting with local banks outside of regular Planning and Development Committee meeting to discuss a strategy for helping homeowners whose mortgage rates are going up.

Ald. Wilson added that there are resources available for these homeowners through the City and other organizations such as Interfaith Housing.

Ald. Holmes suggested having Bank of America and Wells Fargo participate in the discussion.

Mr. Walker agreed to follow up.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Newman