

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD ON AUGUST 20, 1958

The Members of the Boston Redevelopment Authority met in regular session at the offices of the Authority, Room 350, 73 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts, at 10:00 a. m. on August 20, 1958. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and upon roll call those present and absent were as follows:

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Joseph W. Lund	None
Very Rev. Msgr. F. J. Lally	
James G. Colbert	
Melvin J. Massucco	
Stephen E. McCloskey	

The minutes of the meeting of August 6 were read by the Secretary.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes as read.

The Chairman reported on the arrangements made to retain Lewis Weinstein as Special Counsel to represent the Authority in connection with the suit brought by the West End Property Owners.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: that the General Counsel be authorized to retain Lewis Weinstein as Special Counsel in connection with the above case.

The Chairman reported that the Boston College Seminar Committee had invited the Redevelopment Authority to conduct the meeting on the subject of urban renewal on the first Seminar session in October. After a discussion, it was agreed that the Seminar meeting would be very helpful to the program and that the Chairman and Vice Chairman would be authorized to participate.

The Executive Director read a letter dated August 8th, 1958 from the Housing and Home Finance Agency, signed by the Administrator, concerning the option negotiators. After a discussion of the contents of the letter, it was agreed

that the previous resolution and vote of the Authority taken at the time when the option negotiators ' list was approved substantially covered the points raised in Mr. Fried's letter and that therefore a further resolution would not be necessary.

On the recommendation of the Executive Director and on motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve payment in the amount of 80% of their total fee for work completed to the following West End appraisers: William Jacobs, Robert Fowler and John Finnegan.

The Executive Director presented an option form entitled "Option to Settle Claims for Damages"¹¹.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the form and that the General Counsel be and hereby is authorized on behalf of the Authority to accept and exercise the options to settle claims for damages obtained from the owners of West End parcels. (The foregoing Option Form is filed in the Document Book of the Authority as No. 40.)

The Executive Director suggested the possibility of a small clearance project in the South End for recreational purposes. The Federation of South End Settlements, the Mayor's Rehabilitation Committee (SENRAC), and other groups have been pressuring for considerable time for additional recreational facilities in the South End. It was agreed that the South End is in dire need of recreational facilities. It was pointed out that the Chairman of the Park Commission, Frank-Kelley, would be very much in favor of this type of a project.

It was also suggested that the Rotch Playground on Albany Street be considered for conversion into an industrial development as a part of the proposition to undertake a recreational project, since the Rotch Playground is now very poorly located and under-utilized.

It was agreed by the Authority that the Chairman and Executive Director be authorized to meet with the Chairman of the Park Commission and the Planning Board to discuss the matter more in detail and report back to the Authority.

The Executive Director recommended that a brochure be published on the activities and future project plans of the Authority. After a discussion, it was agreed that a brochure should be published and that the Chairman and Mr. Colbert would discuss the matter further for a report to the Authority.

The Executive Director presented Change Order SP 10 in the amount of \$18, 270. 68 in connection with the Salah & Pecci New York Streets Contract for site improvements. This Change Order involves a credit to the Authority for the deletion of Way Street and an extra to the Contractor for the rehandling of fill. The Chief of Development, Mr. Orpin, was called into the meeting to explain the Change Order in detail. Said Change Order was approved by Mr. Orpin and by the official representative of the consulting engineer for this project, Hayden, Harding & Buchanan. (Copy of this Change Order is filed in the Document Book of the Authority as No. 41.)

On the recommendation of the Executive Director and on motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve Change Order SP 10 in the amount of \$18, 270. 68.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to cancel the meeting of September 10, 1958, and that the regular weekly meeting would be held on September 12, 1958.

The matter of the Mattapan Project was presented and discussed at length. It was unanimously agreed that this is a very worthwhile project and that the re-development of this area into residential use is vitally important to an expanding urban renewal program, inasmuch as the supply of standard housing in the City must be increased in order to adequately handle the serious relocation problem caused by the displacement of the families in future project areas.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: that the Regional Office of the URA be informed on the following points: (1) the results of the Authority's efforts to dispose of the Mattapan Project Area in its present physical condition, site improvements to be installed by the redeveloper as suggested to the Authority by the Regional Office} (2) the continued

interest of the Authority in the Project; (3) the vital importance of this Project to the relocation phase of the over-all urban renewal program; (4) the active interest and support of the local governing body- and civic groups in the Project; (5) that the Authority has voted to request the Regional Office to review and process the Application for Loan and Grant which was submitted prior to the January 15, 1958 deadline, because in the opinion of the Authority the review of the Application should not be delayed any further because of the question of whether the project land is to be disposed of in its present condition or after the site improvements are installed by the Authority.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the name of John Brosnahan as option negotiator for the West End Project, and to make the following finding: that the above-mentioned option negotiator is qualified legally and by experience to perform the services to be provided in accordance with the URA Guide Form Contract; that on the basis of adequately documented supporting data, the compensation to be paid the contractor is fair and proper under all the circumstances and at a rate not in excess of what is customarily paid in the locality for equivalent services.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.


Secretary