ATTENDEES: Howard Schmelder

STAFF: Dawn Leger, Grants Administrator
Christine Cooper, Administrative Assistant

The Hearing was opened by BDA Commissioner Howard Schmelder at 6:00 p.m.

Introductions of commissioners and staff were made by Mr. Schmelder.

He continued with opening remarks:

The Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program offers businesses tax credits when they invest in programs under the provisions of the Act. Programs can include energy conservation, employment and training, child care services, neighborhood assistance, and other services.

The statute requires each municipality to hold at least one public hearing on the subject of which programs shall be included in the list submitted to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Services (DRS). The City Council has designated the BDA to conduct such a hearing, which has been set for Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers.

The BDA will vote on these projects at its May 20 meeting and then forward recommendations to the City Council for approval at its June 11 meeting. Organizations must be bona fide tax-exempt organizations and the projects must relate to community or neighborhood services in Bristol. Following City Council’s approval, the projects will be submitted to the DRS before the statutory deadline of July 1, 2019. Businesses intending to make contributions to approved programs may receive tax credits at the rate of 60%. Businesses can receive 100% credit for donations to energy conservation projects. Between September 15 and October 1, 2019 such businesses must complete an NAA-02 form which is available on the DRS website. This two-week window is short. Approved organizations must seek out the contributors and have them ready to act during that time period.

Representatives of the following agencies have submitted an application: Bristol Historical Society, Bristol Preschool Child Care Center, Greater Bristol Realty Corporation, Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, New England Carousel Museum, Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra, Oak Hill Chapter 126 Sports & Fitness Center, Prudence Crandall Center, and the United Way of West Central Connecticut.

The following presentations were made by representatives of the above organizations who wished to speak regarding their applications:

- United Way of West Central Connecticut, 440 North Main Street. Donna Osuch, President & CPO, thanked the BDA and explained which programs they were soliciting contributions for and which organizations benefit from the funding.
- There were no other presentations.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cooper
Recording Secretary