

News Articles FY 2015

July 1 – June 30

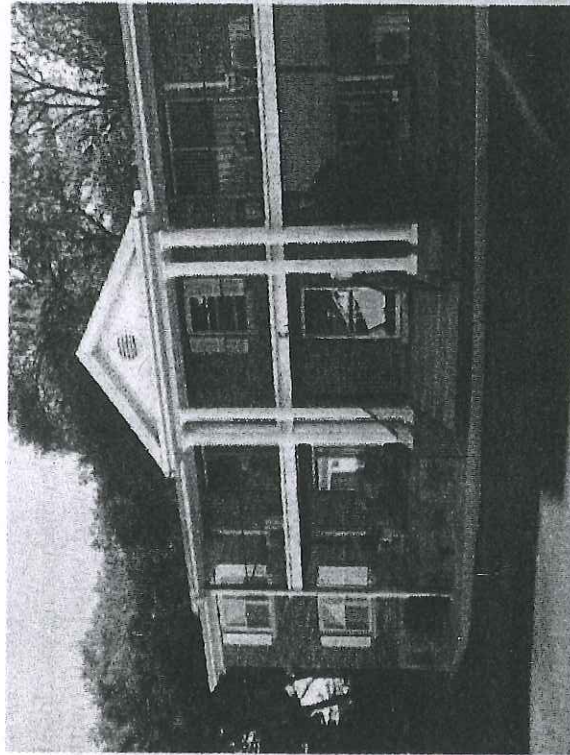
Residents celebrate completion of \$2 million renovation

Renovation
Continued from front page

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The cost of the project was funded partially by residents' rents and monies from the state Department of Community and Housing Development. In addition, nearly \$50,000 in labor costs were saved, Bushman said, thanks to inmates in the Community Work Program (CWP) under the director of Middlesex Sheriff's Peter Koutoujian office.

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PHOTO/BONNIE ADAMS

Residents look on as the ceremony is held to commemorate renovations.

TMMasonry and a team from the Marlborough Home Depot did much of the work on the project. Other members of the business community had also donated thousands of dollars and products, he added.

Bushman also had praise for the leadership shown by Mayor Arthur Vigeant, who also serves as MCDA chair.

"He was so instrumental

in getting the project going," Bushman said. "He's an absolute rock - there is no bigger advocate for seniors, the disabled or veterans than him. He, along with many of the city's other public officials, are some of the most dedicated ones I have ever had the pleasure of working with."

Before the ceremony to commemorate the project completion, the residents were

treated to a cookout. Many local businesses graciously donated food, drinks and raffle prizes, Bushman said.

The renovation project was met with approval by the residents themselves.

"I think it's just great," said Ada Bryden, who has lived there for nine years. "Everyone did a wonderful job."

"It really was a magnificent job," Eloise Bradley, a resident for six years, said. "Everything is absolutely better."

Deborah Sotile has only lived at the complex for two years, but she, too, had praise for the project, noting the enhancements improved the site "tremendously."

During the speaking portion of the afternoon, Bushman, Vigeant, Koutoujian and others addressed the residents.

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enter society.

"Your respect and the dignity you have shown them makes them better men and better members of the community," he added.

As he complimented those who had worked on the renovation, Vigeant noted that the residents themselves deserved credit.

"The biggest issue was trying to get it done without interfering with your lives," he said. "Thank you for being so understanding."

Other speakers included Parti Foti, chair, Bolton Street Committee; Christine Alessandro, executive director, BayPath Elder Services; State Sen. Jamie Eldridge, D-Acton; and Alice Bonner, state secretary for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

Members of the Bolton Street Committee include: Parti Foti, chair; Donna Boulay, Marilyn Boyd, Georgianna Condry, Dru Duval, Paul Sliney, Sally Swartz, Linda Valerio and Valerie Wilkinson.

The Daily News Oct-16-2015

MARLBOROUGH

Candidates make their case

Eight are seeking four at-large seats

By Jeff Malachowski
Daily News Staff

MARLBOROUGH —

The candidates seeking four at-large seats on the City Council made their case during a spirited debate Thursday.

Incumbents Mark Oram and Katie Robey, former School Committee member Ken Vigeant, former Ward 4 City Councilor Peter Juaire, Maureen Brennan, Paul Brodeur and James Jumonville hopped around various topics throughout the session.

Michael Ossing, a nine-term councilor at-large, could not attend due to a work commitment, said moderator Susanne Moreale Leebber.

In his opening statement, Brodeur, a trustee of the Marlborough Historical Society, was critical of Mayor Arthur Vigeant and the sitting City Council, saying the council does not

challenge Vigeant. He said he is also concerned about the direction of the city, specifically what he described as the declining level of services and rising violent crime.

"There needs to be some urgency about the direction of the city," he said.

Oram said the quality of life in the city has improved, pointing to the recent renovation of several parks and the zoning change allowing mixed-use developments downtown.

He said the council could do better at some things, such as allowing more public comment at meetings, better support for small businesses and tracking if the new jobs in the city are going to Marlborough residents.

Juaire characterized the city as "sitting pretty good, but said it desperately needs a fire station on the west side due to the continuing growth there.

"Folks, it's time to build," he said.

Jumonville, who was previously a four-term

selectman in Holden, agreed, saying a west side fire station would be his top priority.

"I think the time is now for that," he said.

Jumonville also harshly criticized Brennan, a former Community Development Authority finance assistant, for a conflict of interest violation and \$5,000 fine she incurred several years ago.

Brennan, an attorney, was fined in 2009 after the state Ethics Commission ruled she signed off on payments for work done to a home owned by Keith Wheeler, who later became her husband. The commission said Brennan violated the law by signing off on CDA housing rehabilitation loans to pay a contractor Wheeler had hired to do work on a Bolton Street home he owned.

Jumonville said the violation violated the trust of city voters, an assertion Brennan denied.

Making her first run at a councilor at-large seat, Brennan stressed she will have an open door policy

—Jeff Malachowski can be reached at 508-490-7466 or jmalachowski@wick-edlocal.com. Follow him on Twitter @JmalachowskiMW.

Robey said she plans to work to bring more businesses to the city, as well as advocate for improved infrastructure. She would also like to see more community policing in the French Hill section.

The election is scheduled for Nov. 3. Last night's forum will air frequently on WMCT-TV until the election.

WICKED LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY
Marlborough Cut 9/10/15



There was lots of food and socializing at the cookout provided recently for the tenants of the Marlborough Community Development Authority's senior housing at Main Street, Pleasant Street and Bolton Street. The event was sponsored by Bay Path Elder Services. Seated, from left, Mary Marinelli, age 96, and Betty Hoban, age 95, who will be 96 in November. Standing, from left: Lisa Johnson, registered nurse at Bay Path Elder Services and Denise Menzors, nutrition director. WICKED LOCAL PHOTO/ MARY WENZEL

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

MARLBOROUGH

Council OKs CDA spot

Ferreccchia will take Committee
Joyce Torelli's seat

By Jeff Malachowski

Daily News Staff

Morticelli is an assistant vice president, loan officer and market manager at Avidia Bank. He has held those positions since 2003.

The longtime resident also volunteers with several organizations, including the Marlborough Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Friends of the Marlborough Seniors and the Marlborough Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Personnel Committee is expected to discuss Morticelli's qualifications soon and provide a recommendation to the full City Council. The council will then vote on Morticelli's two-year appointment.

Torelli and Asman submitted a joint resignation letter in May expressing concerns about the authority's direction — specifically, its lack of an executive director.

The CDA does not receive funding from the city to run its operations. During a past meeting, board members said they would need about \$200,000 a year to be self-sufficient. That money could pay for a full-time executive director and finance manager.

Torelli and Asman were the only board members in favor of selling a parcel of land on Winter Street. Without selling surplus properties, they said the CDA cannot achieve its mission as a blight-fighting, anti-poverty agency.

— Jeff Malachowski can be reached at 508-490-

MARLBOROUGH — The City Council Monday approved Mayor Arthur Vigeant's recommendation to fill one of the two vacant seats on the Community Development Authority board with longtime real estate agent Stefanie Ferrecchia.

With Dora Naves and Associates Inc. since 1992, Ferrecchia will fill Joyce Torelli's seat on the board. Torelli, a real estate agent, and Eric Asman, a loan officer, resigned from the board this spring, citing concerns about the authority's lack of leadership and funding.

The CDA board is required to have one real estate professional and one member with a background in finance. After Torelli and Asman resigned, city officials reached out to professionals in both fields.

A lifelong resident, Ferrecchia is a member of the Worcester Regional Association of Realtors, Greater Boston Real Estate Board, National Association of Realtors and the MetroWest Property Owners Association. She has experience in residential, commercial and rental real estate.

Ferreccchia was appointed to a three-year term Monday night. Along with signing off on Ferrecchia's appointment, the City Council referred Vigeant's recom-

CDA rejects Winter Street offers

MARLBOROUGH

By Jeff Malachowski
Daily News Staff

MARLBOROUGH - Citing concerns

about selling a 2.1-acre plot on Winter Street at a discounted price, the Community Development Authority rejected two offers for the property Thursday.

The cash-strapped authority, which only has about \$215,000 in its savings and checking account, received offers of \$242,500 from Daniel Aho, of Rindge, New Hampshire, and \$251,121 from KM Dover LLC of Newton for the land.

The CDA, which does not receive funding from the city to run its operations, put the parcel on the market last year to generate money to hire a full-time executive director and finance manager. The land is undeveloped and carries a deed restriction limiting development to eight housing plots.

The parcel was appraised at \$175,000 and has an assessed value of \$130,000, according to the assessor's office.

During Thursday's meeting, CDA board member Joyce Torelli made a motion to accept Aho's \$242,500 bid, however, board members voted against selling the land. Torelli requested the board sign off on Aho's offer because it was a cash bid, while KM Dover LLC's bid involved financing.

"This is not a loss for us, it's a gain," said Torelli. "This would be a great opportunity to add value to that street. We are not going to miss this property. It's a great idea."

the land at a markdown price, CDA board

member Paul Slimey noted the authority rejected a \$400,000 bid for the land last year because board members believe the land had more value.

"I'm concerned about selling it at a discounted price," said Slimey.

Board members Renee Perdicaro and Dennis Cavanagh agreed and also voted against the bid.

Mayor Arthur Vigeant, chairman of the CDA, also expressed reservations, saying when the board initially discussed putting the land on the market it had hoped for bids of around \$500,000. Vigeant said the authority should hire a consultant to help the CDA acquire Community Development Block Grant funding and other grants for projects.

"Money in the bank doesn't mean we're moving forward," he said.

Torelli and CDA board member Eric Asman, who was in favor of accepting the bid, said the bids are in line with the existing market.

"I'm very disappointed they chose not to move forward on this," Torelli said after Thursday's meeting. "We still don't have the director we need. Without leadership you can't move forward."

Asman agreed, saying the money would have helped the authority move forward. "We've been stuck in neutral," said Asman. "You can't do anything without money."

—Jeff Malachowski can be reached at 508-490-7466 or jmalachowski@wickedlocal.com. Follow him on Twitter @jmalachowskiMW.

Friday May 2 St. 2015

Wetnews + Daily News

Section
Local

metrowest
DAILY NEWS

DEC 19, 2015

MARLBOROUGH

Move will shift CDA from Walker Building to former senior center

By Jeff Malachowski
Daily News Staff

MARLBOROUGH — The city's Community Development Authority offices will soon have a new home, as crews began moving furniture and files from the Walker Building to the former senior center this week.

Douglas Bushman, Housing Authority executive director, told CDA board

members Thursday that crews began the move this week. Crews are painting the new space, as well as striping and waxing the floors.

"They've done an amazing job," said Bushman.

Employees are expected to move early next week, said Bushman.

"It should be completed by Tuesday of next week," he said.

Bushman and Mayor

Arthur Vigeant proposed the move to the former senior center, which is just steps from the Liberty Hill senior housing facility, to improve communication with the CDA's property management office. The CDA's administrative offices have been housed at the Walker Building for a few years, while the property management office has been at Liberty Hill since 2012, said Bushman.

Moving will centralize operations and also improve communication between the four CDA employees and tenants of senior apartment complex. Bushman said it is very difficult for Liberty Hill seniors, especially those with physical infirmities, to climb the steep hill on Main Street to get to the Walker Building. A new \$250,000 backup generator installed at the Liberty Hill senior apartment

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— Douglas Bushman, Housing Authority executive director

facility and the former senior center will ensure the CDA offices have power in the event of an emergency, said Bushman.

The former senior center has been vacant since the Council on Aging moved its operations into the new

22,000-square-foot facility on New Street in March.

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MARLBOROUGH

Community Development Authority to hire grant consultant next month

By Jeff Malachowski
Daily News Staff

MARLBOROUGH — City housing officials expect to choose a consultant to assist the city in applying for the Community Development Block Grant program sometime next month.

The Community Development Authority board this summer submitted a request for proposals for a consultant to help the city with the grant application

process. Douglas Bushman, Housing Authority executive director, has had discussions with firms over the past several weeks and anticipates recommending a consultant to the CDA board next month.

“(We’re) still reviewing options,” said Bushman. “Time is needed to review proposals and speak with potential consultants.”

The consultant will be tasked with reviewing the process, writing

and submitting the grant request on behalf of the city, he said.

Bushman characterized the Community Development Block Grant application process as complex and said the city needs to hire a consultant because of limited staff in the department. Marlborough jointly applied for the grant with Hudson in 2013, but did not receive funding. The Community Development Block Grant program,

which was enacted in 1974, provides funding to cities and towns to ensure decent affordable housing, provide services to needy residents and create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses.

During a one- to three-year period, as selected by the grantee, no less than 70 percent of the funds must be used for activities that benefit low to moderate income residents. The program has

awarded \$237 million in grants to communities across the state over the past seven years. During that time, Marlborough received \$171,038 for housing rehabilitation projects, \$633,082 for public facilities and \$95,880 for administrative needs, according to the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

If Marlborough is awarded grant funding in 2016, Bushman said

it would likely be used to repair city-owned affordable housing, clean up blighted property and pay for much-needed administrative staff.

The grant application will likely be due in January or February, said Bushman.

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METROWEST
DAILY NEWS

OCT 28, 2015

Residents celebrate completion of \$2 million renovation

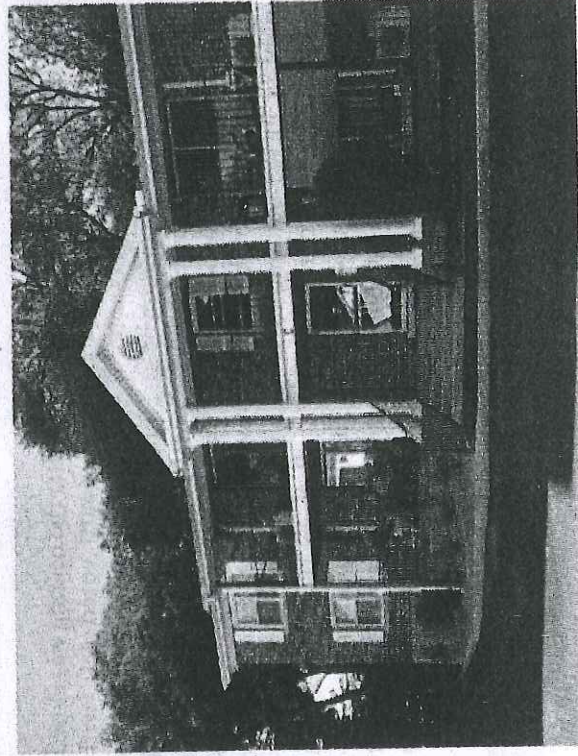
Renovation

Continued from front page

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Residents celebrate renovation's completion

*By Bonnie Adams
Managing Editor*

Marlborough – Residents of the 397 Bolton St. apartment complex were joined by local and state officials Oct. 8 to celebrate the completion of a \$2 million renovation at the site.

The complex, built in 1965, has 60 apartments and is home to approximately 115 residents, many of whom are seniors, disabled and/or veterans.

The renovation project, which has been ongoing for the last 14 months, according to Douglas

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COURTESY OF KEVIN MACCULLI, MIDDLESEX SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Middlesex Sheriff Peter Koutoujian; Edward Clancy, president, Marlborough City Council; State Sen. Jamie Eldridge; Alice Bonner, state secretary, Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs; Mayor Arthur Vigeant; Douglas Bushman, director, Marlborough Community Development Authority; Paul Sliney, member, Bolton Street Committee; and David Morticelli, member, Community Development Authority Board of Directors.

community
advocate

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