Oak Bluffs
Community Development Council
Ad Hoc Fiscal Sub Committee
Task force email: obadhocfinance@gmail.com

CDC Meeting #159
Task Force Meeting # 21
Minutes of 1.25.12
9am-Town Hall Meeting Room
Members in attendance:
   Chairman Terry Appenzellar, Priscilla Sylvia, Renee Balter, Nancy Phillips, Fred Hancock, Bob Huss, James Westervelt (recorder)
   Non-Voting member Christine Flynn (MVC)
   Also attending: EMS Chief John Rose, EMS Administrator Anita Billings, Sam Lowe

Item: Minutes
Minutes of Ad Hoc Fiscal Group meeting #20 & CDC meeting #158, 01.11.11 was read, amended and accepted.

Item: Public Comment- None

Item: Review
Terry reviewed the goals and objectives of the task force. The goals and objectives will be read at the start of all meetings to keep the task force focused.

“To review certain aspects of Town of Oak Bluffs’ fiscal situation toward resolution of projected deficits. The examination should consider future economic expectations (growth, recession) and propose revenue increases and/or spending reductions as well as efficiencies (town and regional, including privatization). The committee report should document all opportunities reviewed, including those already implemented by the Town.

Objective:  
   a. develops criteria for essential Town services.
   b. recommend efficiencies in Town operations, including cessation, privatization and regionalization.
   c. recommend potential spending reductions.
   d. recommend potential revenue increases.

Item: EMS
Terry thanked John and Anita for their input and participation. They were asked for the 2011 equivalent of the 2010 ambulance billings and the 2011 Blue Cross numbers.
The group then went over the Q & A submitted to John and Anita. John explained the daily staffing for the ambulances and training requirements. Also, all fueling is done on island at the town garage. If needed, personal credit cards are used on off-island transports. Rate charges are updated every January.
John explained why our EMS has not signed insurance contracts—it would lock our EMS into insurance rate schedules which would be detrimental to OB.
The group is still waiting estimates on I.T. costs for the EMS.
Anita will ask Comstar for the 2011 Medicare payments
Nancy complimented John for the outstanding EMS provided to our residents.
A lengthy discussion was had concerning the mutual aid agreements and the possible need to review them. John said that that the Quality Assurance Committee (island EMS chiefs and the hospital personnel) review mutual aid agreements.
Anita will fill out our questionnaire and email it to us.

Item: Miscellaneous
The group review Renee’s annual report on the activities of the CDC/Ad Hoc Group.
Terry commented on the wastewater commission and the possibility of a problem with the bond repayment.
Item: Public Input

Sam Lowe had questions concerning the ability of citizens to fully understand the functions of the town departments, budgets and town meetings. Priscilla commented on the need to educate oneself by coming to meetings, public hearings, and possibly getting involved by getting appointed to committees or boards.

Adjournment: 10:45am

Documents: EMS questionnaire

Future meetings: 2.8.12, 2.22.12