

The regular meeting of the Grant Review Committee was held on the above date with Committee member Jim Young, Council Members Robert McGhee and Robin Burgess and Town Manager Morris Deputy present with Louis Vitola, Town Financial Manager, presiding.

ITEM 1: Validation Reports

The committee received a validation report from the Appoquinimink School District for its 2007 Education Fair in with the paperwork submitted in March 2008 for a \$1,000 grant request for their 10th Annual Education Fair. Spending totaled \$8,793, of which \$1,000 was donated by the Town and spent in accordance with the school district's grant request.

The committee will make a recommendation to Mayor and Council to approve this validation report.

ITEM 2: APPOQUINIMINK BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The group has requested \$5,000 to support its One Campaign Annual Fund for Kids Kick-Off

Elijah Richardson commented on the "One Campaign Annual Fund for Kids". The campaign runs from July thru June. Items are donated for their auction. The past year has been hard for Boys & Girls Clubs all over Delaware. The Club's budget called for a surplus of \$15,000 this fiscal year but the acquisition of gym space to hold additional revenue-generating programs fell through. Grants revenue is also down due to the economy and once the budget is in, it's final and there is no possibility of changing it. They currently have a \$41,000 deficit and this grant request will help offset the cost of the kick-off. The club must pay for catering, advertising, etc. expenses.

Lou Vitola stated the program fees weren't enough to run the programs. They are ahead on contributions but are behind on other categories. They did generate revenue from the snack machines and are currently meeting their budget expenses. Elijah stated they have successfully cut back expenses in order to mitigate the deficit. This is a matching grant so the Boys & Girls Club would get a total to \$10,000.

Jim Young abstained from voting on this grant request due to his position on the board of the Boys and Girls Club.

The Committee agreed to make a recommendation to Mayor and Council to approve this \$5,000 grant request.

ITEM 3: Appoquinimink School District

The group has requested \$1,000 to support its Positive Behavior Support Program.

This group is made up of a team of students, teachers and parents to reward students with good behavior.

Appoquinimink School District and its units/clubs have requested over \$45,000 in grant funding since the inception of the grant review committee while Mayor & Council have awarded over \$21,000 in grants.

There is a less clear benefit of this program to the overall community with respect to the other ASD programs the Town has supported.

Morris Deputy stated that the school district budget should address matters of behavior and Jim Young expressed his agreement.

The Committee agreed to make the recommendation to Mayor and Council not to approve this grant request.

ITEM 4: Delaware Deacons

The group has requested \$3,000 to support its Youth Basketball Organization.

Lou Vitola stated this organization is working towards 501(c)(3) non-profit recognition. The team has also recently applied to join the AAU in an attempt to be recognized as a non-profit organization under its umbrella but have not received confirmation of the AAU membership.

The Committee suggested that the Delaware Deacons reapply for a grant request after they get their 501(c)(3) non-profit status. Jim Young also wants to advise them that they need to get established before they come back.

The Committee will make a recommendation to Mayor and Council not to approve this grant request.