



LAKE WORTH
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Board
FROM: Rachel A. Bach, Executive Director
DATE: October 24, 2006
SUBJECT: Community Aid Grant Program – Lake Worth Playhouse

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Community Aid Grant of \$2000.00 to the Lake Worth Playhouse to fund capital improvements for their Stonzek black box theatre.

EXPLANATION:

The Lake Worth Playhouse Inc. has recently submitted an application to obtain \$2000.00 in Community Aid Grant funds to use toward capital equipment for their proposed Emerging Cinemas Independent Film Program. The Playhouse will soon begin showing independent films in their Stonzek black box theatre on Lake Avenue in an effort to appeal to younger and more diverse patrons.

The funds that the Playhouse is requesting will primarily be used to purchase a new film projector, screen and sound system in the theatre. Officials at the Playhouse are currently receiving quotes for the equipment. The Playhouse anticipates that with the addition of this program, it will be able to offer an entertainment option 7 days a week, 365 days a year and will become a major attractor of patrons for the downtown. The total cost of the equipment is estimated to be \$16,000.00.

The Lake Worth Playhouse has received Community Aid Grant funding in the past to support a community outreach program and for the renovation of their rehearsal hall. They are also the recipient of a \$25,000.00 façade grant for the renovation of their marquis sign.

CRA Staff has verified that the Playhouse has completed a great deal of work in their rehearsal hall and is nearing completion of the renovation project. Staff has also verified that the Playhouse employees are currently meeting with an architect to formalize design plans for their marquis improvement project.

This project helps to meet CRA goals by stimulating the downtown economy and creating growth and employment opportunities for residents in the local community.

Upon review of the application it was found that all requirements of the Community Aid Grant Program were met and the improvement project for the Playhouse is within the Redevelopment Area.

PROGRAM IMPACT:

This project meets several goals of the Redevelopment Plan which are included in the attached application.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The CRA currently has \$10,000.00 allocated towards the Community Aid Grant program. The Lake Worth Community Development Corporation is requesting \$1775.00 and the Lake Worth Playhouse is requesting \$2000.00. If both programs are awarded funding, \$6225.00 will remain for the fiscal year 2006-2007 Community Aid Grant program.

Prepared by: _____
Chris A. Dabros, Program Planner

Recommended by: _____
Rachel A. Bach, AICP, Executive Director