The Board of Directors met at 4:00 PM on Monday, April 27, 2009 at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh. Mr. Rick Pierchalski, Mr. Dan Griffin, Dr. Herman Jones, Mr. Rob Jones, Ms. Dusty Kirk, Chair, Mr. Stanley Parker, Ms. Connie Yarris, Chief Counsel Jim Norris, Executive Director David Donahoe and staff as well as members of the public. Notice of the meeting was published in accordance with the Act and By-laws and on the ARAD Website.

The meeting was a joint meeting with the Advisory Board and the following members attended: David Graffam, Liane Norman, Jonathan Cox, Judy Bookhamer, Beth Wainwright, Charles Spence, Mark Lynch, Winford Craig, Davie Huddelston, Charles Jarrett, Marilyn Coleman.

Prior to the formal meeting the members toured the Pittsburgh: A History of Innovations Exhibit with Museum Director Andy Masich. Ms. Kirk opened the meeting by thanking Mr. Masich and his staff for hosting the meeting.

**Presentation of 2008 Report and Future Issues**

Ms. Kirk asked Mr. Donahoe to make a presentation on the 2008 annual report and to outline the issues facing the District in light of current economic pressures. Mr. Donahoe advised the group that 2008 had been a record setting year for the District and many of the assets but that the recession was beginning to take its toll on District revenues as well as asset support across the Board.

Communications Manager Julie Goetz outlined the steps the District was taking to keep assets and the public informed on the budget situation.

In a discussion following the presentation, several members commended the District for its efforts in the communication area. Ms. Kirk offered that asset employees and board members might need more information about how the District is coping with the downturn. Mr. Parker suggested that the District reexamine how it communicates with the public directly. Mr. Pierchalski said that the revenue numbers were likely to get worse and become more consistent with state and national figures.

Mr. Kirk thanked the group for their input and said that the staff and board would consider all suggestions. She then announced that the Board continue the meeting by considering several business items.

**Public Hearing and Comment Period**

Ms. Kirk advised that no member of the public registered to speak at this meeting.
Minutes

Ms. Kirk asked for consideration of the minutes from the meeting of March 30, 2009 and whether there were any additions or corrections. As there were none, Mr. Parker moved approval with Mr. Griffin seconding and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Donahoe said that he had received no comments on the proposed District Diversity Plan presented at the last meeting and that it was now in position for the Board to consider. In discussion, Ms. Yarris and Mr. Rob Jones commended the staff for taking initiative to develop the plan.

Mr. Rob Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Parker that the Board adopt the Diversity Plan (see following). The Board approved the plan unanimously.

Allegheny Regional Asset District
Diversity Plan

Statement of Principle

The Allegheny Regional Asset District operates the agency and its programs in a way that allows all District residents to participate in employment, purchasing and contracting, volunteer service and grant programs. This is the spirit and intent of the governing act and the commitment of board and staff.

On October 1, 2008 the District Board updated its Diversity Policy reaffirming its commitment to diversity and inclusiveness among regional assets. To achieve its full mission while continuing to give full access to its activities, the District commits to the following plan:

Goal 1: Provide timely access to information about employment opportunities with the District.
Strategies:
1. Post all District employment opportunities on the district web site.
2. Advertise postings in daily papers as well as targeted media.
3. Contact agencies offering employment referral services to diverse populations about employment opportunities.
4. Notify assets, advisory board members and other constituents and request referrals.
5. Post all District employment opportunities with other job availability sites and resources.

Goal 2: Afford all District businesses and particularly MBE/WBE/DBE businesses access to information about purchasing and contracting activities.
Strategies:
1. As purchasing/contracting opportunities arise, search MBE/WBE/DBE data bases for firms qualified in the area and notify them of the opportunity.
2. List opportunities on District web page.
3. Notify referral agencies of opportunities.
4. Publish and circulate information on opportunities with the District as well as funded assets.
5. Sponsor and/or participate in trade fairs and other program designed to inform businesses about opportunities.
6. Disseminate information on MBE/WBE/DBE to funded assets.

**Goal 3: Promote diversity in the appointment of the Advisory Board and other posts under the control of the Board.**

Strategies:
1. Recruit candidate’s representative of the population of the county for seats on the Advisory Board via notifications to community groups, assets, web postings. Include these prospective candidates in nomination pool.
2. Recruit candidates for the at large member seat on the board via notifications to community groups, assets, web postings. Include these candidates in the nomination pool.
3. Consider diversity as a criterion when citizens are appointed to panels, committees.

**Goal 4: In addition to seeking applicants representing diverse populations, include diversity as part of the evaluation process.**

Strategies:
1. Maintain contact with other funders for information about emerging assets and notify these organizations about the District program.
2. Outreach to the community for potentially eligible assets.
3. Announce through general as well as targeted media the availability of applications.
4. Require submission of Diversity Plans with applications and consider diversity as an evaluative element.
5. Consider increase support for emerging assets as they prove viability and increased service.

The Executive Director is charged with implementing this plan and shall report annually to the board on what actions have been taken under each goal.

**Adjournment**

As there was no old/new business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.