

: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :

CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was held by the CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission virtually, on Friday, April 16, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Chairperson Patrick Kirchhofer called the meeting to order @ 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Commissioners were present: Kimberly McGhee, Catherine Cross, Sherry Cannon, Mark Brown, Alexander Ikejiaku, Jada Hoerr, Patrick Kirchhofer, Brett Kolditz, Farrell Davies, Brittney Ferrero, Elizabeth Birkey and Patrick Wilmington. Absent: Lisa Fuller.

Council Liaison Present: Councilwoman Denise Moore

Staff present: Cassie Belter and Abigail Youngblood

MINUTES

The minutes for the February 19, 2021 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION:

Commissioner Cannon moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kolditz. Approved unanimously by viva voce vote 11-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2021 Subrecipients

Staff Member Belter updated the Commissioners on the Subrecipient report training that was held for 2021.

Staff Member Belter stated the Health Department is required to do monthly reporting due to past performance issues.

First quarter reports were due Monday, April 12th, and most agencies submitted correct and timely reports.

Staff Member Belter pointed out that Big Brothers Big Sisters and Tri-County Urban League were exempt from reporting due to late report training and because they are new programs. The Pediatric Resource Center had an extension due to their agency's financial schedule, and the Health Department did not request any reimbursement. The Dream Center Peoria had requested all their funding for 2021 already.

Staff Member Belter presented organizations' first quarter objectives to Commissioners.

Councilwoman Moore questioned if organizations keep record of the zip code of clients they are serving. Staff Member Belter stated most clients complete an intake form which does list their address.

Commissioner Kirchhofer stated the Center for Prevention of Abuse has served three times as many clients as needed. Commissioner Belter stated organizations are only required to serve the number of clients in their contract; however, some organizations record every client that is CDBG-eligible.

Commissioner Belter stated clients needed to serve is based off the amount of funding awarded to the organization and how much it costs to serve each client.

Councilwoman Moore and Commissioner Cannon received clarity regarding the "Total Clients to Serve" category.

B. Update on COVID Funding

Staff Member Belter provided an update to Commissioners regarding the \$100,000 that they recommended go to support household assistance. The additional funding will go the Utility Assistance Program, which will launch Monday, April 19, 2021.

Councilwoman Moore questioned the \$100,000 not being utilized for rental assistance. Staff Member Belter stated there was additional resources for housing assistance, but the moratorium for utility shutoffs had already been lifted.

Commissioner Cannon asked how the Utility Assistance was being told to the public. Staff Member Belter stated Ameren and the Illinois American Water company were disbursing the information to clients that need assistance along with local organizations and press releases.

Councilwoman Moore stated she had seen the information on Channel 22.

Commissioner Kirchhofer received clarity regarding the program guidelines.

C. 2021 Priorities and Application Process

Staff Member Belter presented the 2021 Priorities Survey Results to Commissioners.

Patrick Wilmington arrived at 9:01 a.m.

Staff Member Belter noted that seven of the thirteen Commissioners took the survey.

Councilwoman Moore questioned if it was time to narrow the focus of the Commission to be more impactful for the community.

Commissioner McGhee asked what happened for organizations that applied but did not fall into the top categories the Commissioners had ranked. Councilwoman Moore stated the information is disbursed to organizations and those organizations oftentimes have a program that fits the top categories chosen by Commissioners.

Councilwoman Moore stated there is an abundance of funding in Peoria currently due to COVID-19 and the Fair Housing lawsuit that was resolved in 2020.

Commissioner Cannon stated she believed some of the funding categories could receive funding from other resources.

Commissioner Davies questioned the funding available for food banks due to COVID. Councilwoman Moore stated the Department of Agriculture had been assisting food banks across the country.

Commissioner Hoerr also informed the Commission that boxes of produce, meat, and dairy had been sent to nonprofits but that the program had recently ended and there was no information regarding the FDA's programming to replace it.

Commissioner Hoerr stated that, coming off the pandemic, mental health services are still critical.

Commissioners McGhee, Ferrero, and Davies voiced their approval for supporting the top eight services.

MOTION:

Commissioner Ferrero moved that the top eight funding categories were approved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Approved unanimously by viva voce vote 12-0.

D. Equity Discussion

Staff Member Belter discussed equity and the Commissioners' ability to support equitable organizations. Staff Member Belter shared with Commissioners the Continuum of Care's method of implementing and prioritizing equity in their application process.

Staff Member Belter shared with Commissioners Section Three information for organizations that is being collected by the City.

Staff Member Belter informed Commissioners of the importance of considering equity during the application process over the next few weeks.

Commissioner Cannon stated when discussing equity, it is important to evaluate staff members that are a minority, woman or people of color that are employed by the organizations beyond entry level positions.

Commissioner Kirchhofer thanked Councilwoman Moore for her time and effort spent on the Commission.

Councilwoman Moore thanked the Commission for their hard work and passion for serving the community.

ADJOURNMENT**MOTION:**

Commissioner Cannon moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGhee. Approved unanimously by viva voce vote 11-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by:

Abigail Youngblood