

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
and ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011

6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Curwen; Co-chair, dePara, Co-chair,
Brantley, Blunt, Lyons, Martinez

NON-COMMITTEE: Council President McCarthy

OTHER(s): K. McDermott, Senior Manager, Central Grants

Co-chair de Para called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

110-10 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Program
Year 37

(Ref. #35-10) Annual Action Plan Community Development Block Grant Program
Substantial Amendment.

Ms. McDermott stated that two handouts were distributed. She updated that back in April; the city council approved the PY37-allocations and subsequently, it was found that they only received a 16% decrease, which means the city has additional monies to allocate. She reviewed the handout that outlined the dollars that were received from HUD.

She noted the dollar amounts that could be applied to the following categories:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| ○ Public Services | \$72,690.55 |
| ○ Admin | \$96,907.40 |
| ○ Public Facilities, Housing, Economic Development | \$314,949.05 |
| ○ Section 108-Loan | (previously allocated) |

Council member Brantley asked why the amount for Public Services was so low. Ms. McDermott explained that that category had a 15% cap per the federal government. She stated that all the program groups were notified prior to the start of this process.

Ms. McDermott reviewed the Substantial Amendment spreadsheet and she explained what each column represented.

Co-chair Curwen clarified that the previous approval was considered a preliminary approval.

**** CO-CHAIR CURWEN MOVED TO SUBMIT DOCUMENT ECDE-A (SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT SPREADSHEET) and DOCUMENT ECDE-B (PROGRAMS ALLOCATIONS SHEET) INTO THE RECORD
** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Co-chair Curwen questioned where the additional amount of \$100k was going for salary increases. He recalled that at the last ECDE preliminary vote; the findings reflected the potential of losing one employee. Ms. McDermott clarified that the findings actually reflected losing two employees.

Council member McCarthy encouraged the committee members to cap the Administration category, noting that the paperwork is getting more comprehensive. He felt that a certain amount should be allowed for good reason, due to the importance of staying on top of projects and oversight.

Public Services category reviewed - \$72,680.55 allocation

The committee members began their deliberations for the substantial amendment recommendations:

Council member Lyons had a question about **#C9 CoB Dept. on Aging Senior Center Program**. Ms. McDermott stated that this program was previously funded.

Council member Lyons had a question about **#C8 CoB Parks/Recreation Senior Programs**. She asked how this program differed from the Eisenhower Center program. Ms. McDermott explained that this program brings people in to run the programs.

Council member Martinez mentioned that **#36 Caroline House** teaches literacy training and provides child care service while the parent attends training.

Co-chair Curwen questioned the large amount of money **#73 Ralphola Taylor Comm. Center** recently received. The response was that they received \$150k.

Co-chair Curwen recommended funding **#C3 CoB Veteran's Affairs**.

Council member McCarthy commented that **#41 BHA Unique and Unified** was a very important program.

Ms. McDermott reviewed the Public Services recommendations as submitted:

**** CO-CHAIR CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE PUBLIC SERVICES CATEGORY FOR A TOTAL OF \$72,680.55**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Housing, Public Facilities and Economic Development reviewed - \$314,949.05 allocation

Council member McCarthy questioned the reasoning why the Citizen's Union allocated \$164,015 to **#26 The Kennedy Center**. Co-chair dePara read the program description that consists of services for disabled and special needs; implement green energy efficiency and safety improvements for windows, (2) boilers, hot water heater and sprinkler system. Ms. McDermott stated that the Citizen's Union felt The Kennedy Center was important to fund due to the nature of the program.

Council member McCarthy recalled that years ago, it was decided not to piecemeal projects. He felt it was better to just get one entire project funded and completed at a time, rather than just doing portions of a project.

Council member Blunt asked about **#29 Third Stone Ridge**. Ms. McDermott recalled that they were funded two years ago – *there was a brief discussion regarding the prior allocations that First, Second and Third Stone Ridge has received.*

Co-chair Curwen recommended and allocation of \$159,034 to **#C16 – CoB OPED ONR NRZ Improvement Projects.**

Ms. McDermott recapped there was a balance left of \$214,949 – *after the amended recommendations and without the Kennedy Center allocation.* She noted the allocated amounts applied to the (3) Kennedy Center properties: Beacon Court \$64,239; Carroll Apartments \$45,600 and Probus House \$54,176.

She noted the following improvements for each property as follows:

- Beacon Court – roof, doors, hot water heater
- Carroll Apartments – boiler, front door, sprinkler system
- Probus House – sprinkler system, storage tank, (15) windows, (4) doors

She noted that the three homes provide housing for twenty (20) people with disabilities.

Co-chair dePara commented that despite how the committee felt about the funding, the services that The Kennedy Center provides is commendable.

Council member McCarthy suggested funding one of the Kennedy Center's properties. He recommended funding Probus House in the amount of \$54,176.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE HOUSING, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CATEGORIES FOR A TOTAL OF \$314,949.05**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Planning/Administration

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE #C32 CG&CD CDBG ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$96,907 AS IT WAS OUTLINED and RECOMMENDED BY THE CITIZEN UNION
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Emergency Shelter Grant

Co-chair dePara stated there was \$44,256 to allocate.

- ** CO-CHAIR CURWEN MOVED TO ADOPT THE CITIZEN UNION RECOMMENDATION OF \$44,256 FOR THE PROGRAMS OUTLINED
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY SECONDED

Council member Lyons asked about #28 Healing Tree Kings Pantry – East End. Co-chair Curwen stated that he was told by Council member Holloway that there are four (4) food pantries on the east end and he felt that was a sufficient number.

After some discussion of where to allocate funds,

- ** CO-CHAIR CURWEN RESCINDED HIS MOTION AND MOVED TO APPROVE THE EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT CATEGORY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,256 FOR THE PROGRAMS OUTLINED BELOW
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

HOPWA

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE HOPWA CATEGORY FOR THE PROGRAMS OUTLINED AS IT WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITIZEN UNION FOR A TOTAL OF \$239,710
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

HOME ALLOCATION PLAN

Ms. McDermott relayed that her office has seen more interest in developing rental housing. She gave an example of what is entailed for closing on 14-new units. She further noted that leveraging of \$1.2 million will support (11) of those new units.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE HOME ALLOCATION PLAN CATEGORY AS IT WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITIZEN UNION FOR A TOTAL OF \$280,013**

**** COUNCIL CURWEN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENTIRE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT ALLOCATION PACKAGE AS RECOMMENDED**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Consent calendar**

REFERENCE ATTACHMENT-A FOR THE FINAL ALLOCATIONS SPREADSHEET

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL McCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCIL MARTINEZ SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services