

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO**

On the 15th day of May, 2014, the Community Development Advisory Committee had a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. The session was held at the Downtown Library, 4th and Buchanan, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT TODAY	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE APPOINTMENT
BANDY, Bill – Chairman	YES	24	21
GATES, Sam – NW Area	NO	16	9
GRISHAM, Glenda – NW Area	YES	65	54
JONES, Thomas – NE Area	YES	56	40
NELSON, Mary Jane – SE Area	YES	24	19
PHAM, Lo Van – SW Area	YES	12	9
RIVERA, Ruben – SE Area	YES	53	41
SALDIERNA, Rita – NE Area	YES	49	38
SISNEROS, Sabrina – Target Area	YES	16	14
STUDER, Lee – SW Area	YES	17	17

STAFF MEMBERS:

James Allen, Community Development Administrator
Deon Coffman, Housing Administrator
Kelly Robinson, HMIS System Administrator
Kathryn Foster, Program Coordinator
Michelle Wood, Administrative Assistant

Citizens in attendance: 14

Chairperson Bill Bandy established a quorum, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Bill Bandy asked each committee and staff member to introduce themselves and what area they represent.

**ITEM 1: CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – Jan Werner
Adult Day Care Center – Alana Chilcote, 6705 Calumet**

Alana Chilcote gave a brief background of the program and its function. The program has been in operation since 1978. There are two facilities on the campus. The Day Care Center provides medical and social rehabilitative services to aging and disabled persons during the day.

No public or committee comment.

ITEM 2: CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – PRPC Child Care Match – Pam Zenick, 415 W 8th

The funds are designed to help low income parents work or go to school. The purpose of the program is to help low income families become self sufficient. The goal is to help 200 more children.

No public comments.

Thomas Jones asked what did she consider low income.

Pam Zenick replied 30% of Median Family Income.

Bill Bandy asked if they had any way to track the success of the program.

Pam Zenick said it would be a good idea but they don't have an automated system to do it.

Lo Van Pham asked if they have a waiting list.

Pam Zenick said that she would love to have a waiting list because that would mean that when one family went out of the program, they would be able to put another family on right away.

Lee Studer asked, based on the dollars that are given, and there's no one on the waiting list, what happens to the money about six or seven months into funding period.

Pam Zenick explained funds were spent. They received funds from Recovery Act money. They gave childcare providers a 2% raise.

CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – PRPC FoodNet – Sundie Rossi, 7715 Pine Ridge

The program provides home delivered meals in the Amarillo area, and targets lower income seniors and disabled adults. CDBG funds will only be used to support the home delivered meals program for clients residing within the Amarillo city limits. The Bivins Culinary Center prepares the meals and menu.

No public comments.

No committee comments.

CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – Wesley Club Wrestling – Liz Rascon, 1615 S Roberts

Requesting \$15,000 to cover the salary for Coach Hernandez. The program has one staff member and seven coach volunteers.

No public comments.

Glenda Grisham asked what the coach's salary was last year.

Liz Rascon replied by saying that it was \$11,000.

Bill Bandy asked how long the program has been running.

Liz Rascon said that the program has been running for fifteen years.

CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – Interfaith Hunger Project Kelly Stephens, 200 S Tyler

They are asking for 12½% of the total program cost. United Way has contributed \$30,000. The participants that go to the store get to shop for their own food based on their medical needs. The current store has reached capacity and they are looking to expand in the future.

No public comments.

Lee Studer asked how long the waiting list is.

Kelly Stephens said that right now they don't have a waiting list. They are going to have to start one. They are at capacity for the homebound program. The meals cost \$1.31 per meal.

Thomas Jones asked what the referral process was.

Kelly Stephens said that they do a lot of community events but basically word of mouth and flyer.

Judge Jones asked what the difference between their program and the many others that already exist.

Kelly Stephens responded by saying that the other programs do not provide the clients to shop for themselves.

Lo Van Pham asked about the percentage of the program also utilize the FoodNet program.

Kelly Stephens said that if she had to guess, she would say none.

Sabrina Sisneros asked if the clients could use food stamps at the store.

Kelly Stephens explained that money is not actually exchanged at the store. The client becomes eligible for a certain amount of money and that is what they can spend at the store.

CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle Youth Shelter – Sonja Steelman, 3600 S Austin

Requesting funds to implement a new program, which is the Safe Place Program.

The program would partner with local businesses, particularly on the I40 corridor, to be classified as a safe place. Currently in Amarillo, there are 1700 homeless children. A portion of the requested money will go toward funding a dedicated bed for the program. The rest will finance the program, which costs would include mileage costs, material for the businesses, education and a coordinator.

No public comments.

Thomas Jones asked about how the funds will be distributed.

Sonja Steelman said the funding was for one bed and the cost of the program.

CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – GSRC Homeless Dayroom Salaries – Courtney Cagen, 200 S Tyler

This program provides shelter and services for those experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of becoming homeless. The Day Room is open 365 days per year. This is the only homeless community day room. All services in the day room are free.

No public comments.

Lo Van Pham asked how many people utilize the day room per day.

Courtney Cagen said that her estimation would be between 112 – 120 per day.

**CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – Maverick Club Summer Camp
– Alise Dixon, 702 S Buchanan**

Requesting funds to support the summer camp program. The Boys & Girls club has been in existence since 1934 and are celebrating their 80th anniversary. Alise Dixon explained how during the summer time, kids need interactivity with unique experiences. Last year there were 117 kids on the waiting list. Because of the staff to student ratio, there is a limit on how many kids can be accepted into the program. The program is looking at ways to be able to increase staff to be able to accept more kids.

No public comments.

No committee comments.

**CDBG/HOME Funding Requests – Public Services – City of Amarillo – Homeless
Bus Tickets – James Allen, Community Development**

Transportation has been identified as a huge issue for the homeless.

No public comments.

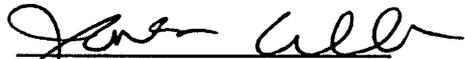
Lee Studer asked why we would pay \$12,000 when the number of tickets issued has continued to decline.

James Allen responded by saying that they are aggressively trying to correct the issues. The agencies that are distributing the tickets are having a problem with oversight. Proof is now being required, which makes a more aggressive oversight on distribution. The tickets are now being distributed on a monthly basis and the Community Development staff is tracking the distributors. If the distributors are not utilizing the tickets, the staff is emailing and calling them.

**Community Development Department Funding Request – Housing– Emergency
Repairs - James Allen, Community Development**

Emergency repairs are for water lines, gas lines, sewer, heaters etc. Participants do have to qualify as low income.

With no further business to come before the committee, Bill Bandy requested a motion to adjourn. Ruben Rivera made the motion and it was seconded by Glenda Grisham.


Approved by James Allen
Community Development