

MINUTES

On May 26, 2016, the Community Development Advisory Committee held a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Downtown Library, 4th and Buchanan, with the following participants and public present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Rivera, Ruben – SW Area	Y	60	47
Sisneros, Sabrina – Target Area	N	24	19
Saldierna, Rita – NE Area	N	57	42
Jones, Thomas – NE Area	Y	64	45
Nelson, Mary Jane – SE Area	Y	32	24
Grisham, Glenda – NW Area	Y	72	59
Van Pham, Lo – SW Area	N	19	12
Julian Reese- Target Area	Y	3	3
Gilbert Guzman-NW Area	Y	3	2

Also in attendance were the following Staff Members:

<u>James Allen</u>	Community Development Administrator, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Summer McCampbell</u>	Administrative Assistant III, Community Development
<u>Amy Dixon</u>	Accounting Assistant, Community Development
<u>Kathryn Foster</u>	Program Coordinator, Community Development

Citizens in attendance: 9

ITEM 1: Call to Order. Judge Thomas Jones established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Community Development Advisory Committee to order at 6:04pm.

ITEM 2: Review of the Public Hearing Procedure. James Allen presented the Director’s Report on the current federal funding status and the allocation process. Below are the allocations for 2016-2017.

2015-2016 Prior Year Funding Available	\$ 65,000
2016-2017 Community Development Block Grant	\$ 1,427,939*
2016-2017 HOME Investment Partnership Program	\$ 499,454*
	<u>\$ 1,992,393*</u>

Based on previous year funding

ITEM 4: Consider project funding requests for the 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan:

- a. **Demolition and Clearance**
Presented by Brad Hofmann, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101
Community Improvement Chief, City of Amarillo
Funds requested \$150,000
Mr. Hofmann discussed the great strides in made in the Demolition and Clearance process with in the Target Area.
Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.
No public or committee comment.
- b. **Community Improvement Inspector**
Presented by Brad Hofmann, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101
Funds requested are \$67,482.
Mr. Hofmann explained that the funds requested include the salary and operating cost of one Community Improvement Inspector to work neighborhood services in the target area.
Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.
Julian Reese asked Mr. Hofmann about the junk car process.
Mr. Hoffman explained that these cars are tagged, then after 30 days a new inspection is conducted to ensure vehicle is in compliance or has been removed.
No public comment.
- c. **Parks and Recreation**
Presented by Pat Westbrook, 509 SE 7th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79105
Requested funds \$300,000
Gene Howe Park has been unusable for some time due to storm drainage issues that are being addresses. The park amenities had to be removed but now the focus is on remodeling and bringing the play area up to code. Currently have \$400,000 available in funding and the

additional will help with new irrigation, grass, seating, trees, play equipment, and remodel of bathrooms.

Judge Jones asked for public and CDAC committee comment.

Judge Jones asked how will the holes be handled?

Ms. Westbrook states that the contractor needs these ponds dry and they are looking into green infrastructure and use of docks, but this is still an ongoing discussion.

d. Salvation Army- Warming Up Project

Presented by Dr. Jennifer Santer, Director of Social Services,

Requested Amount \$20,000

Dr.Santer discussed the need for new and more durable cots as well as upgrades to their kitchen equipment. The current kitchen equipment is over 20 years old and they need to be able to keep up with the demand of at least 1600 meals served monthly at their shelter. Also they are in need of new cots due to the current ones are beginning to breakdown and the ones they want to invest in are more durable. They also request these additional cots so that they can continue to accommodate clients, especially during bad weather and not have to turn anyone away.

Judge Jones asked for public and CDAC comments.

Judge Jones asked if the weather is 38 degrees or below can they turn anyone away?

Dr. Santer states that they do everything they can to accommodate during bad weather.

Judge Jones wants to know what exactly the \$20,000 will go towards.

Dr.Santer replied that these funds will be used for purchasing new cots and kitchen equipment only.

e. Wesley Community Center – Wrestling club

Presented by Liz Alaniz, 1615 S. Roberts St, Amarillo, TX

Funds requested \$15,000

Mrs. Alaniz explained the project provides 1 wrestling coach's salary to teach low-mod income youth income youth wrestling skills and life skills. She listed the competitions and awards the Wesley wrestling teams have achieved.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No CDAC or public comments.

f. Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) – Food Net

Presented by Sundee Rossi, 415 SW 8th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$25,000

Ms. Rossi explained that the program provides noon meals to homebound elderly and disabled adults at a cost of \$6.69 per meal. Approximately 65 unduplicated persons will benefit from the project. The benefits of home delivered meals include better nutrition, and money saved for more important things like medication.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No CDAC or public comment.

g. PRPC Child Care Title 4-A Local Initiative

Presented by Leslie Hardin, 415 SW 8th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$80,000

Ms. Hardin explained that PRPC collaborates with Workforce Solutions to supply childcare to low income families to help families improve their economic opportunities.

The \$80,000 will go directly to subsidize childcare costs in the CDBG Target Area. By providing \$80,000 for the local match, \$160,000 in federal and other funds will be matched for parent choice child care

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No CDAC or public comment.

h. Transportation for the Homeless

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$9,000

The program provides bus tickets to 8 agencies for the Coalition for the Homeless to assist homeless persons with transportation.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public or committee comments.

i. Emergency Repair Grants

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$247,243

Mr. Allen explained that Emergency Repairs are for low to mod income homeowners that sustain and unexpected failure in their home. These are the homeowners that can manage their day to day lives as long as nothing big goes wrong. They don't have the resources save up to fix that one unexpected event. Usually this will happen in older homes. And we are finding that it is just not possible to fund all the emergency repairs out there and we are asking for a reduction of funding this year to shift more funding to another program.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No CDAC or public comments.

j. Minor Housing Rehabilitation Assistance.

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$50,000

This program provides funds for repairs of homes that will need more funds than are allowed in the Emergency Repair Grant Program.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public or CDAC comments.

k. Rehabilitation Support Administration

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79105

Requested funds \$150,437

Salary and operational support for Rehab Inspector I and II who provide the inspection and construction oversight services for the CDBG and HOME housing activities.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public comments.

l. Program Management Administration.

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested funds \$285,587 (20% cap)

This provides salary and operational support for Community Development Administrator, Program Manager, Administrative Assistant III, and Accounting Assistant who provide the daily operations and monitoring of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded programs.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public comments.

m. HOME Administration.

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested funds \$49,945

This provides the salary and operational support for the HOME Program Coordinator who handles the daily operations, awarding, and monitoring of Rehabilitation and CHDO projects.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public comments.

n. Owner Occupied Rehabilitation

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested funds \$50,000

Mr. Allen explained that these funds are used to make home improvements to low-moderate income homeowners that require more extensive work than an emergency or minor repair.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public comments.

o. New Construction

Presented by James Allen, 808 S Buchanan St, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested Funds \$105,208

Mr. Allen explained how this grant is used to reconstruct homes in city-wide Amarillo. The new construction of homes is performed by contractors through the city of Amarillo to provide decent and affordable housing to low and moderate income families.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Judge Jones asked how many reconstructions are completed each fiscal year?

Mr. Allen explained how current funding allows for one, however previous years there was an excess of funds available to be able to complete more.

Ruben Rivera asked if there is a cap for the reconstruction projects?

Mr. Allen stated that appraisals of the current neighborhood(s) are used in order to determine spending limits on each project.

Mr. Rivera followed up with asking if the same square footage is used for each project. And what is the largest square footage used for a project.

Mr. Allen responded that each reconstruction project is customized to fit the need of the client and that the largest reconstruct was about 1500 square feet.

No public comments.

p. Public Comments

Sundee Rossi, PRPC, asked about the prior year funding available of \$65,000 and how that will be allocated.

Mr. Allen stated that there are some limitations in how the funds can be used such as a financial cap for the different funding categories that have to be taken into consideration.

ITEM 5: Adjournment. Judge Jones reminded members that there will be a second meeting on the following Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 6:00pm. Mr. Allen went on to explain the funding process and the role that the committee takes in evaluating and making recommendations that then have to be presented and approved by City Council. There being no further business, Judge Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rivera and the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m. This meeting was recorded and all comments are on file with the City Secretary Department.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Allen", is written over a horizontal line.

James Allen, Community Development Administrator