

MINUTES

On **June 8th, 2021**, the **Community Development Advisory Committee** met at **1:00PM** on **Zoom** for Work Session to review of agenda items and consideration of future agenda items. The board will then meet at **1:00pm on June 10, 2021** for a **Work Session**.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. METTINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT 2020-2023	NO. OF METTINGS ATTENDED
1.Mildred Darton	Y	1	1
2.Jinger White	Y	1	1
3.Glenda Grisham	Y	1	1
4.Amanda Holcomb	Y	1	1
5.Edna Neal	Y	1	1
6.Lilia Escajeda	Y	1	1
7.Margaret Dejong-shier	Y	1	1

Also, in attendance were:

<u>Jason Riddlespurger</u>	Community Development Director
<u>Stefanie Rodarte-Suto</u>	Assistant Director, Community Development
<u>Vanessa Robinson</u>	CDBG Program Coordinator, Community Development
<u>Amy Dixon</u>	HMIS Coordinator, Community Development
<u>Teresa Noack</u>	Coming Home Coordinator, Community Development
<u>Ruth Volpi-Lane</u>	HOME Program Manager, Community Development

ITEM 1: Call to Order. Jason Riddlespurger established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the **Community Development Advisory Committee** to order at 1:00 p.m. CDAC Introduction was a briefing on the requirements and role of the CDAC Committee.

ITEM 2: Community Development Director **Jason Riddlespurger** presented a presentation on the Community Development Department. Discussing the various programs assisting the community in its current pandemic phase. Recognizing the three main objectives for these programs and a few key staff members such as; **Amy Dixon** (HMIS COORDINATOR) AND **Vanessa Robinson** (CDBG PROGRAM COODINATOR).

ITEM 3:

Agency presentation went as follows; **Mr. Justin Oppel** began with Building Safety located at **808 S. Buchanan**. Discussing different violations, procedures and penalties. Building safety is asking for **\$276,000** for community improvement inspectors and Demo clear. In 2019, they have requested **\$150,000.00** in which that covered the demolition cost of 15 structures.

Public Comments: Do you see properties that have a lot of animals running loose? Do you refer to the animal welfare unit?

Answer: Yes, Any time we see anything like that we contact the appropriate department to let them know.

Teresa Noack presented on behalf of the Coming Home program located at **808 S. Buchanan**. Discussing the requirements for the program and its duties. Teresa shared the stats and achievements thus far for the Coming Home program and its clients. They are requesting **\$200,000.00** to continue the Coming Home program.

Public Comment 1: What do you contribute to your decrease in homelessness?

Answer: The “hand over hand” case management model.

Public Comment 2: Please explain why Amarillo has 248 average vs. Texas 93 average.

Answer: Proximity to I-40 and it is rumored in homeless community that you can come from anywhere in the world and get help in Amarillo. We have a lot resources and rural areas come here for services.

Public Comment 3: What resource services are available to alumni of program?

Answer: Coming Home continues to offer support and resources.

Public Comment 4: Business owners downtown would like to see a decline in the homeless population.

Answer: I would too.

Tracy presented on behalf of Guyon Saunders Resource Center located to **200 S. Tyler**. Discussing various assistances provided. They are requesting **\$15,000** for program expenses.

Public Comment: How many people go through facility a day?

Answer: 110 daily average.

Ms. Donna Soria presented on behalf of the Maverick Boy and Girls Club located at **1923 S. Lincoln**. Discussing their duties and responsibility of the boys and girls club. Donna shared testing stats of the kids attending the Maverick and their benefits. The Maverick is improving skills to assist kids with; homework, character development, feeding the children supper, as well as homeless prevention. Requesting **\$300,000** for a roof for their building.

Public Comment 1: Do you provide and counseling or therapeutic intervention for the children if necessary?

Answer: We have a social worker who comes in and does group volunteer counseling.

Public Comment 2: Is there a referral system, you mentioned so complicated problems and complicated problems always mean that maybe we need to refer out. Do you have the finances or referral system for mental health care?

Answer: For every mental health need there is ten other needs you don't see.

Public Comment 3: If you get funded are you going to us an Amarillo roofing company or go through Lubbock?

Answer: Yes, we have so many people show up and want to help until they find out we don't have insurance. We will be more than glad to partner with somebody that is local.

Public Comment 4: How many bids did you get to come to the amount of \$300,000?

Answer: We have 5 bids. We went with the middle one. We had two bids for \$1million.

Mr. Marin Rivas presented on behalf of PRPC Childcare located at **415 SW 8th Ave Ste 302**. Discussing the number of children that are being helped, what the pandemic has done to the working parents and how it has affected their care, the cost out of pocket for essential workers who cannot go without work. Childcare is asking for \$100,000 for 200 children in care and this investment will turn into **\$300,000** with a \$2.00 contribution match.

Public Commit: No Public Comment received at this time.

Ms. Sundee Rossi presented on behalf of PRPC Food Net located at **415 SW 8th Ave Ste 302**. Discussing the duties of this program. Food net delivers five frozen meals once per week to the elderly. These five meals are nutritionist approved, and each meal will cost **\$4.99**. Food net has recently lost their contractor of 17 years and are asking for **\$25,000.00** in funding specifically for purchasing the meals.

Public Comments: I recall from a previous presentation, you guys have a high standard of nutrition, which is way you cost is higher per meal.

Answer: Yes, our cost if \$4.99 per meal.

Mr. Ernest Hull presented on behalf of the Salvation Army located at **400 S. Harrison St**. Discussing changes in sheltering at the Salvation Army. **Mr. Hull** explained the Salvation Army is striving to offer the clients a program of success whether it is helping bring income into the home, shelter and or savings plan. They are requesting **\$50,000** in funding to improve case management skills and program costs.

Public Comments: Question: No public comments received at this time.

Ms. Virginia Williams presented on behalf of Amarillo Housing First located at **207 N. Tyler St**. Discussing services and assistance Amarillo Housing First provides.

Public Comments: How many people do you serve on a regular basis?

Answer: The warming station averages about 61 people a night. We had a high count of 113 during the winter storm. As far as housing goes, we have housed 170 within our own case management program. Over 320 with people we have helped in partnerships.

Public Comment: What are your hours for the warming station?

Answer: We open at 7pm and are open until 7am.

Mr. Jason Riddlespurger presented on behalf of the Community Development Programs, such as; CDBG, ERG, Rehab Support, HOME, and TBRA. Jason presented a breakdown of available funds and caps. Requesting **\$329,429** for administration and staff and supplies for CDBG. Requesting **\$211,417** for Emergency Repair Grant program and **\$25,000** for Minor Repair Grant. Requesting **\$25,000** for rehab support. Requesting **\$70,656** for HOME. Requesting **\$252,929** for TBRA program.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time.

Owner of JDL Real-Estate presented on behalf JDL Real-estate located at **707 Mirror St**. Discussing funding of ongoing rehab projects. Requesting **\$230,000** from HOME to complete renovation of 8 units.

Jinger White: Are these the last 8 units?

Answer: Yes.

Ms. Alason Moorhead presented on behalf of Habitat for Humanity HOME funding. Discussing the duties of Habitat for Humanity, and the completion and planning of projects. No amount requested at this time.

Public Comment 1: How many homes are going to be in this new neighborhood?

Answer: There will be 6.

Public Comment 2: Where is the neighborhood?

Answer: Off of 21st, Spruce down towards Arthur.

Each agency presented in a five-minute timeframe of their need and blueprint for funding.

ITEM 4: Public Comments:

Public Comment 1: How are you informed if you are selected and how would you know that?

Answer: Our second meeting will be next Thursday that will be the meeting they have the discussion on how to spend the money. Then it will go to City Council.

Public Comment 2: Under the public service section can you tell us how much Coming Home is asking for?

Answer: \$200,000.

Public Comment 3: Spoke about Maverick club and the improvements achievements they have accomplished.

Answer:

Public Comment 4: Catholic Charities do great work for the community, and it is unusual they were not here. Will their application still be considered? I would like to make a request that it is still considered.

Answer: We can call them and inform them we want to hear from them.

Public Comment 5: Initial email said we MAY be asked to present.

Answer: We will reach out to them.

ITEM 5: Adjournment: Glenda Grisham motioned to adjourn.

Lilia Escajeda, Chairman