

MINUTES

On May 31, 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	61	48
Sisneros, Sabrina – Target Area	N	25	19
Saldierna, Rita – NE Area	Y	58	43
Jones, Thomas – NE Area	Y	65	46
Nelson, Mary Jane – SE Area	Y	33	25
Grisham, Glenda – NW Area	Y	73	60
Van Pham, Lo – SW Area	N	20	12
Julian Reese- Target Area	Y	4	4
Gilbert Guzman-NW Area	Y	4	3

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: 7

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 6:03pm.

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

a. Boys and Girls Club of Amarillo & Canyon

Presented by Kimber Daniels, 1923 S Lincoln St, Amarillo, TX 79109

Executive Director

Funds requested \$25,000

Ms. Daniels explained how they have expanded services for after school pickups have been expanded to include even the River Road school district and to take over the Whittier and San Jacinto after school programs. They anticipate an increase of 300-400 students in the 2016-2017 school year.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Gilbert Guzman asked if the after-school program includes the Canyon school district.

Ms. Daniels advised that in 2015-2016 school year it did.

Julian Reese asked if there are any scholarships available to those that cannot afford the club fees?

Ms. Daniels states that the current rate is \$20.00 per month and if there are siblings they charge only \$1.00 per week per sibling. But if there is a parent that is unable to pay the fees then they can volunteer their time at the club in order to offset the fees.

b. Homeless Management Information System

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

Funds requested are \$30,000.

Mr. Allen explained that the funds requested include the salary and operating cost of the HMIS software and the HMIS coordinator. This is a HUD mandated program that tracks the data of the homeless individuals and services that they utilize. This helps to eliminate duplication of services and provides statistical analysis to agencies when they are producing reports.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

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Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Ruben Rivera asked for clarification of the amount requested.

Mr. Allen stated that 1/3 of the costs are being requested, 30,000.

Rita Saldierna asked if this was a new or existing program.

Mr. Allen responded that this is an existing program that usually was funded by Continuum of Care grants. However this year we were not funded.

No public comment.

c. Catholic Charities – InterFaith Hunger Project

Presented by Nancy Turner, 200 S Tyler, Amarillo, TX 79101

Funds requested \$30,000

Ms. Turner explained that the Hunger Project provide food at no cost to all clients while helping them to remain independent by being able to choose the foods they receive. Also they offer the Homebound Project which is for those that are home bound and they are delivered a box once a month that meet their dietary needs.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Glenda Grisham asked how many are served by their program.

Ms. Turner stated that last year 1064 individuals, 750 households were served.

Glenda asked about the space that they currently use and if it is large enough to serve their current clientele.

Ms. Turner advised that they are actually looking into expanding. There are plans in the works to actually move to a new location that will provide that larger space.

Ms. Grisham asked if the move will allow these clients to still be able to access the services as easily as they do now.

Ms. Turner advised that they are taking the location, bus routes, and other possible transportation issues into consideration.

Gilbert Guzman asked if they were joining with the new Dioceses center.

Ms. Turner said no.

No public comments.

d. Guyon Saunders Day Room

Presented by Susan Barros, 200 S Tyler, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested funding \$47,500

Ms. Barros stated that part of the funds requested provides salary and fringe costs for the Homeless Day Room Manager. The Day Room provides services such as helping people find a safe place on cold days, showers, laundry, and computer training. It provides basic needs for the homeless and nearly homeless 365 days a year. Many of the other agencies that were housed in the GSRC building have or will be relocating and therefore the Dayroom will need to seek a new location as well.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Glenda Grisham asked were the rents raised the reason why everyone is moving out of the building.

Ms. Barros explained that the rents have been consistent, and as a matter of fact the rents currently charged are not enough to cover operational costs. They had to use about \$130,000 from their reserves to cover the shortfall.

Ms. Grisham asked if there is no new space yet, then how will they still operate a dayroom.

Ms. Barros explained that the day room will stay at GSRC until a new location is secured.

Ms. Grisham expresses that she doesn't believe that CDBG funds should be used to cover salaries.

Ms. Barros responded that the salary is necessary to be able to provide the direct services to the homeless. Without a supervisor to run the dayroom, there would be no dayroom.

Ms. Grisham commented that their relocating will cause an inconvenience to the homeless because they have no way to get there except to walk.

Ms. Barros advised that them having to relocate is due to the other agencies making their own operational choices, so moving is required. But also there are bus passes that are made available to the homeless through several agencies that will allow the dayroom services to still be accessible.

Judge Jones asked if the GSRC building is sold do they have a transitional plan in place for relocation.

Ms. Barros states that with the assistance of realtors and attorneys that they are strategizing a significant plan to ensure that the funding is secure and the community support is there.

Judge Jones posed question to James Allen if the committee can require that the outline of the transitional plan be made available to the committee as part of their recommendation process.

Mr. Allen advised that they can request that information through the Community Development department. Also Mr. Allen explained that any programs that are funded by CDBG are closely monitored in order to make sure that they are in compliance with HUD

regulations. If they are not in compliance then that could mean repayment of the funds allocated to the organization. He advised the committee that they can ask that there be a written commitment, provided by the United Way Board of Directors, outside of the actual funding agreement contract that be an addendum to ensure that the dayroom will meet their goals and outcomes.

Ms. Barros advised that is something that they had already considered and could make that available if needed.

Ms. Grisham expresses that the separation of all these services that were once housed in GSRC means the homeless spreading all over the city of Amarillo.

Nancy Turner, CCTXP, states that their services aren't geared toward the homeless but specifically the elderly and disabled low income community. Therefore their relocation would have no direct impact on the homeless.

Ruben Rivera provided the opinion that this relocation of these services is due to the downtown redevelopment.

Ms. Grisham asked Mr. Allen if it is possible to make a provision in the funding agreement that specifies where the services must be provided.

Mr. Allen advised that they can make the recommendation and it is up to City Council to approve or deny.

Ms. Barros went on to explain that their current business model just doesn't work. She stated that in their yearlong research that they compared their current service model to that of other cities like Oklahoma City and Denver and how although there is quite a distance between many of their social service agencies, there business models work.

Ms. Grisham states that we shouldn't try to compare ourselves to larger cities.

Mr. Allen advised the committee that they make any requests for additional information by email through the Community Development department.

Julian Reese asked how many people transition from homeless to not using their services.

Ms. Barros explained that it is hard to track those that are no longer homeless, but that they constantly provide unduplicated services to new families and individuals each year.

Nancy Turner, CCTXP, commented that although there is concern about the dayroom relocating, the case management model that they are moving towards is going to be more beneficial to the homeless.

e. Speiro Legacies- Career Cultivation

Presented by Kim Zimmer, Amarillo, TX

Funds requested \$63,000

Mrs. Zimmer explained the service that her organization provides is a progressive and paid twelve week program that provides life skills, on-the-job training, job coaching, and professional development to assist extremely-low to low income individuals in achieving permanent employment and financial stability.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Julian Reese asked about the example of Jessica that was provided in her presentation if she has went through the program yet.

Mrs. Zimmer advised that they are lining up sources in order to get her started however the funding is necessary to pay her stipend.

Judge Jones asked what the referral process is.

Mrs. Zimmer advised that churches and other social service agencies are the main referral networks. This helps to pre-vet potential clients for success.

Judge Jones asked how many clients would be handled with the funding requested.

Mrs. Zimmer responded that they have determined 10 clients could be assisted with the funding requested.

Judge Jones asked how the clients are chosen and are criminal histories also taken into consideration.

Mrs. Zimmer explained that through the referral service the clients are referred based on their perceived success in the program. Then they must still undergo an interview process which will make the final determination for selection. As for their criminal histories, one of their main referral sources is from Randall County's PREP program so they are willing to work with those with criminal histories.

Gilbert Guzman asked if the job training is specifically tailored to a certain job or generalized.

Mrs. Zimmer advised that the client would receive generic training and then it can be specialized to build on their obtained skills.

Rita Saldierna asked how much is spent per applicant to put them through the twelve week training program.

Mr. Allen asked that the calculation breakdown be provided to the Community Development department and then this will be communicated to the committee.

Mary Jane Nelson asked how many have been helped so far through their program.

Mrs. Zimmer stated that only one at this time due to self-funding.

No CDAC or public comments.

f. **Jan Werner Adult Day Care**

Presented by Alana Chilcote, 3108 S Fillmore, Amarillo, TX 79101

Requested funding \$18,000

Ms. Chilcote explained that the Day Care provides transportation services, meals, nursing care, exercise, and therapy in a supervised and protective environment.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Julian Reese asked about accommodations for other languages.

Ms. Chilcote advised that English and Spanish are the only languages available at this time.

No public comments.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No CDAC or public comment.

g. **Amarillo Habitat for Humanity – Glenwood Addition**

Presented by Chas Massey, 2700 S. Wilson, Amarillo, TX 79103.

Funds requested are \$150,000.

Ms. Massey was please to announce that this year Amarillo Habitat for Humanity is using current funding. They are asking for funding for 4 houses at \$35,000 each for low-income families.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

Julian Reese asked about the interest that would be charged to the clients.

Ms. Massey stated that they are not charged interest, these are interest free home loans carried by Habitat for Humanity.

No public comment.

h. **Amarillo Habitat for Humanity – Operating costs**

Presented by Chas Massey, 2700 S. Wilson, Amarillo, TX 79103

Funds requested \$30,000

Ms. Massey explained that the funding would help supplement salaries and not be the burden of the homeowners.

Judge Jones asked for CDAC and public comments.

No public or committee comments.

ITEM 5: Adjournment. Mr. Allen addressed the agencies and committee that any questions that they be directed through the Community Development department. Also he reminded that the work session and public hearing will be held on June 9, 2016 at 5:00pm at the Downtown Library. There being no further business, Ruben Rivera moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Glenda Grisham and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m. This meeting was recorded and all comments are on file with the City Secretary Department.

ATTEST:



James Allen, Community Development Administrator