



Rochester City Council

Community Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Laura Hainey, Chair
Harlan “Skip” Gilman
Tim Fontneau
Amy Malone
John Larochelle

Meeting Date:	Monday, September 18, 2023	
Members Present:	Amy Malone John LaRochelle Tim Fontneau	Members Absent: Laura Hainey Harlan “Skip” Gilman
Staff Members Present	Kiersten Wright , Community Development Coordinator	

Councilor Hainey and Councilor Gilman were absent for the meeting. Three members were present for a quorum.

Councilor Malone called meeting to order at 6:04pm

PUBLIC INPUT	Councilor Malone stated that she received an email about the Adult Drop in Center supporting the idea of a Center, as Waypoint currently only is able to assist up to the age of 25.
Approval of Minutes- June 19, 2023	Councilor Fontneau moved to approve, approved by all present.
Additional Funds available- CAP Weatherization and Fair Housing	<p>Ms. Wright informed the committee of some additional funds that had not been expended from FY22. \$4,175.02 in funds from CAP’s weatherization program from FY22 originally thought to have been used, has not been used. Ms. Wright verified with HUD that they can move the funds to the same project if they would like for a new year. Councilor Malone moved to approve the funds being moved from Fy22 to FY24 for CAP upping to \$79,175.02 from \$75,000 for FY24.</p> <p>Ms Wright informed the committee that the Fair Housing training for \$200 was not expended and that the group the funding was for stated that they would not be offering fair housing training that the funds had been set aside for.</p> <p>Fontneau motioned to give \$200 in fair housing to Meals on Wheels, seconded by LaRochelle and carried by all present.</p>

	<p>Ms. Wright stated she would reach out to Finance to verify if this needs City Council approval and if so, they will see it on the agenda of the city council meeting set for October 3, 2023.</p>
<p>FY23 CAPER- Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report</p>	<p>Ms. Wright informed the committee that she is working on the CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report) for FY23 (PY22) for HUD that is due at the end of this month. She will provide a copy of the report once completed via email but will also have this report on the City's site for review.</p> <p>This report is to discuss what was completed during FY23. Most activities were completed with the exception of the Rec Department's Hanson Pines Projects. The committee requested that the Rec Department provide a letter detailing why there have been so many delays and how they plan to proceed to see if this project needs to be tabled for next year. Ms. Wright informed the Committee that she will reach out to the Rec Department for that information.</p>
<p>Drop in Center for Unhoused Adults in Rochester-Discussion</p>	<p>Councilor Malone discussed the need for a Drop In Center for Adults (25 and older) in Rochester. She stated that there had previously been a Drop In Center in Dover, but that they do not keep consistent hour. Councilor Malone stated that this need for a Drop In Center came out of a discussion at the Opioid Abatement Committee. She informed the committee that SOS Recovery has had a large number of homeless residents who have a hard time staying sober due to not having housing or the resources to find housing.</p> <p>Ms. Wright stated that CDBG Funds can be used by a group to purchase a building for a drop in center (similar to Waypoint). Currently there is not a group that is able to run the center, but Councilor Malone stated that SOS may be willing to run a center, but that they would need to look into this further to see if they could support it. Councilor Malone stated that its possible to get some funding from an Opioid Abatement Grant to help fund a drop in center but would want to be discussed further.</p> <p>The Warming Center from last year was brought up during this discussion and it was asked if it would be open again this year. Councilor Malone stated that she believes SOS and Community Action Partnership will be running the Warming Center again at Willand Pond for Dover, Rochester and Somersworth but it is not agreed upon just yet. Councilor Malone, Fontneau and Larochelle brought up several concerns that have been brought to their attention regarding the need for a Drop In Center for Adults in Rochester. The consensus is that this would benefit the residents of Rochester, and that talks should be continued as well as looking into possible grants to help fund it.</p>

Other Business

Ms. Wright stated that she will be meeting with the Vice President and President of The Homeless Center for Strafford County to meet and inform them of the CDBG Grant to see if they would like to apply for FY25. They have had some turn over at the center the last few years so their current knowledge of how CDBG can help them is low.

Councilor LaRochelle asked about the Community Heart and Soul Program and if there have been any updates about that. Councilor Malone and Fontneau agreed that it was something that they were interested in. Councilor Malone stated she was going to reach out Ms. Saunders and City Manager Ambrose to see if they have an update.

Ms. Wright informed the committee applications will open the first week of October for FY25.

Councilor Malone adjourned the meeting at 7:18pm

Next Meeting – Monday, October 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., Cocheco Conference Room, City Hall Annex, 33 Wakefield St.

Topics: Applications for FY25, Hanson Pines Project updates