



# Rochester City Council

## Community Development Committee

### MEETING MINUTES

**Elaine Lauterborn, Chair**  
**Donna Bogan, Vice Chair**  
**Tom Abbott**  
**Jeremy Hutchinson**  
**James Gray**

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Monday, April 8, 2019	
<b>Members Present:</b>	Tom Abbott Donna Bogan James Gray Elaine Lauterborn	<b>Members Absent:</b> Jeremy Hutchinson
<b>Guests/Staff:</b>	Julian Long, Rochester Community Development Coordinator Chris Bowlen, Recreation and Arena Director Lauren Krans, Recreation and Arena Assistant Director Jennifer Murphy Aubin, Economic Development Executive Secretary Matthew Winders, Resident Bob Brown, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Kevin Barry, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Dick Clough, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Dale Bickford, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Dave Anctil, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Dave Colson, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission Sheila Colson, Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission	

This was a joint meeting between the Community Development Committee and the Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission. Councilor Lauterborn called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission approved its March meeting minutes and discussed its monthly revenue and expense reports.

Motion was made by Councilor Bogan and seconded by Councilor Abbott to approve the March 11, 2019 Community Development Committee minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

<b>PUBLIC INPUT</b>	There was no public input.
<b>COMMUNITY CENTER/RECREATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS</b>	Ms. Krans gave a tour of the renovated Recreation Department offices in the Community Center. She explained that Mr. Bowlen will be moving offices to the Arena building and that there is a new welcome kiosk to provide better service to both Recreation Department visitors and other Community Center visitors. The Recreation Department is proposing in its FY 20 budget to reclassify a part-time seasonal employee to part-time permanent employee to help ensure the kiosk is adequately staffed.

	<p>Councilor Gray asked about police calls to the Community Center and whether they are disproportionately for a particular building agency. Mr. Bowlen said that they are not, and Ms. Krans added that the Police Department tracks calls by building location but not specific agency. Mr. Bowlen stated that the Community Center holds a monthly meeting for all tenants to help address any shared concerns. Councilor Lauterborn requested that the Community Development Committee be provided the Police Department data on Community Center police calls.</p>
<b>OUTDOOR FITNESS COURT</b>	<p>Ms. Krans passed out photographic examples of outdoor fitness courts. Mr. Bowlen gave a brief history of the project. The Economic Development Department had requested \$50,000 in the FY 2019 CIP budget but there is still a shortfall in funding for the project. The Economic Development Department is in the process of reaching out to local businesses to bridge a funding gap of \$30,000. The project will be receiving \$10,000 in grant funds from the National Fitness Campaign, for a total project cost of \$90,000.</p> <p>Mr. Bowlen suggested a change in location from the original plan of installing the fitness court at the Rochester Commons to the Hanson Pines Park instead. Ms. Murphy Aubin explained that the choice of the Rochester Commons was influenced by the National Fitness Campaign's preference for a centralized location.</p> <p>Mr. Bickford asked whether the outdoor fitness court will be self-directed. Ms. Murphy Aubin replied that it will be completely self-directed. Concerns regarding potential vandalism were discussed.</p> <p>Councilor Abbott stated that he preferred the Rochester Commons for the location of the outdoor fitness court as the court is intended for adult use and placement at Hanson Pines Park would mean it would be used mostly by Spaulding High School students. Mr. Bowlen replied that children will likely play on the fitness court if it is placed at the Commons, as well. Councilor Bogan suggested investigating the possibility of a third location, and Councilor Lauterborn suggested the Arena. Mr. Bowlen replied that the outdoor fitness court project is meant to be located in a very visible, highly-trafficked area.</p> <p>The Community Development Committee agreed to continue to consider project locations. Mr. Bowlen suggested scheduling an</p>

	<p>annual joint meeting between the Community Development Committee and the Recreation and Arena Advisory Commission.</p>
<p><b>FY 2019-2020 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN – Seacoast Youth Services/Bridging the Gaps</b></p>	<p>Councilor Lauterborn explained to the Community Development Committee that the planned fiscal agency relationship between Seacoast Youth Services and Bridging the Gaps has not gone forward. Mr. Long added that Seacoast Youth Services has not responded to multiple contact attempts and that Bridging the Gaps, while still interested in opening a teen center, is unlikely to be able to do so within the next fiscal year. Therefore, the Committee was asked to reallocate the \$2,000 in FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding originally allocated to the teen center project.</p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn asked Mr. Long about the process for the reallocation. Mr. Long suggested that the Committee vote on its recommendations and then mention the new recommendations at the scheduled April 16<sup>th</sup> public hearing. Then an amendment could be made at the second reading and adoption of the draft FY 2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan at the May 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.</p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn suggested funding Cross Roads House at an additional \$1,000. <b><i>Motion was made by Councilor Bogan and seconded by Councilor Gray to recommend an additional \$1,000 in FY 20 CDBG funding for Cross Roads House, for a total FY 20 funding recommendation of \$12,000. The motion passed unanimously.</i></b></p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn suggested that the remaining \$1,000 be allocated to the SHARE Fund. Councilor Bogan suggested that it be allocated to Strafford Nutrition Meals on Wheels. Mr. Long suggested that it might be allocated to the SOS Recovery Center, as it provides substance use disorder services, which is the category of services provided by Seacoast Youth Services and Bridging the Gaps. Councilor Lauterborn stated that she is opposed to funding SOS Recovery Center in both the CDBG budget and general city budget and prefers to fund the agency in the general city budget.</p> <p><b><i>Motion was made by Councilor Bogan and seconded by Councilor Abbott to recommend an additional \$1,000 in FY 20 funding for Strafford Nutrition Meals on Wheels, for a total FY 20 funding recommendation of \$2,000. The motion passed unanimously.</i></b></p>

<b>PROGRAMS REPORT – CDBG Projects, Other Grant Projects</b>	<p>Mr. Long provided a brief overview of current CDBG projects, including the Maple St. Magnet School and Spaulding High School chairlift installation projects. He has also started the process of conducting the environmental reviews for proposed FY 20 CDBG facilities projects.</p> <p>Mr. Long also shared with the Committee that the City of Rochester had been contacted by the organization Curtains Without Borders regarding the historic preservation of the East Rochester Fire Station’s stage curtain and the current Moose Plate Grant application round. He added that the Committee had originally considered the topic at its November 2017 meeting and had decided to postpone any decisions regarding the stage curtain until plans for the fire station had been made.</p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn stated that it doesn’t make sense to renovate the fire station if there’s no planned use for the building. She suggested that the fire station building could be used as a community center for East Rochester. Ms. Murphy Aubin suggested that the stage curtain, once restored, could be placed on display at the Rochester Opera House. Mr. Bowlen suggested that it could also be displayed in the Spaulding High School auditorium.</p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn asked why an archaeological survey is required for the Riverwalk Committee’s Recreational Trails Program grant project to install a footbridge at Hanson Pines. Mr. Long replied that the state is requiring the survey as the project will involve digging.</p>
<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p>There was no other business.</p>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

**Next Meeting** – Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Isinglass Conference Room in City Hall Annex (33 Wakefield Street)

**Topics** – Projects Program Report