



Rochester City Council

Community Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Elaine Lauterborn, Chairperson
Donna Bogan, Vice Chairperson
Tom Abbott
Ray Barnett
A. Raymond Varney, Jr.

Meeting Date:	May 8, 2017	
Members Present:	Councilor Abbott Councilor Barnett Councilor Bogan Councilor Lauterborn Deputy Mayor Varney	Members Absent: None
Guests/Staff:	Julian Long, Community Development Coordinator Pamela Thyng, Community Partners Laurie Basham, MY TURN	

Councilor Lauterborn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Motion was made by Councilor Bogan and seconded by Councilor Barnett to approve the March 13, 2017 minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT	<p>Ms. Thyng of Community Partners passed out copies of the statement that Community Partners made during the March 2017 Community Development Committee and requested that the Committee reconsider awarding funds to support the organization's rental assistance program. Ms. Thyng stated that the program would help ease the burden on the city's welfare department and would provide ongoing support to clients. Councilor Varney asked if the welfare department also provides rental assistance, and Mr. Long confirmed that it does so. Councilor Lauterborn asked if the program would still be viable if it did not receive the full funding request, and Ms. Thyng stated that Community Partners would be able to run the program with any amount of funding.</p> <p>Ms. Basham of MY TURN distributed organizational flyers and discussed the organization's paid internship program for low-income out-of-school youth. Councilor Varney asked what MY TURN's largest source of funding is, and Ms. Basham replied that it is the state Department of Education. Councilor Abbott expressed interest in having his business participate in MY TURN's paid internship program and stated he would abstain from voting due to potential conflict of interest. Councilor Varney asked how many students MY TURN has,</p>
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	<p>and Ms. Basham replied that currently the organization has twenty-five active students.</p> <p>Mr. Long also distributed an email to the Committee written by Martha Stone of Cross Roads House.</p>
<p>DRAFT FY 17-18 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN – Homeless Center for Strafford County Funding Reallocation</p>	<p>Councilor Lauterborn reminded the Committee that it is reallocating \$8,000 of estimated CDBG funds under the public service agency category of funding that was originally allocated to the Homeless Center for Strafford County, prior to the homeless center arranging to receive general city funds through the welfare department.</p> <p><i>Motion was made by Councilor Lauterborn and seconded by Councilor Bogan to recommend that \$1,000 be added to the initial recommended funding amount for the Dover Adult Learning Center. The motion passed unanimously.</i> The new CDBG funding recommendation for the Dover Adult Learning Center is now \$5,000.00.</p> <p><i>Motion was made by Councilor Varney and seconded by Councilor Bogan to recommend that \$1,000 be added to the initial recommended funding amount for My Friend’s Place. The motion passed unanimously.</i> The new CDBG funding recommendation for My Friend’s Place is now \$6,000.</p> <p><i>Motion was made by Councilor Varney and seconded by Councilor Bogan to recommend that \$500 be added to the initial recommended funding amount for MY TURN. Councilor Abbott abstained from voting; the motion otherwise passed unanimously.</i> The new CDBG funding recommendation for MY TURN is now \$5,041.90.</p> <p><i>Motion was made by Councilor Varney and seconded by Councilor Bogan to recommend that \$2,000 be allocated to the Community Partners rental assistance project. The motion passed unanimously.</i> The new CDBG funding recommendation for Community Partners is now \$2,000.</p> <p><i>Motion was made by Councilor Lauterborn and seconded by Councilor Varney to recommend that \$3,500 be added to the initial recommended funding amount for Cross Roads House and, in the case that the actual FY 2017-2018 CDBG grant allocation is higher than the estimated funding, that up to \$2,000 of any public service agency funds in excess of the estimated \$32,541.90 be automatically allocated to Cross Roads House. The motion passed unanimously.</i> The new CDBG funding recommendation for Cross Roads House is now \$8,500.</p>

CDBG PROJECTS PROGRAM REPORT – Current CDBG Projects, Future CDBG Projects, JOB Loan Program Report, Non-CDBG Grants	<p>Mr. Long gave a brief update on the CDBG program, including the status of the Tri-City Co-op handicap ramp project, the Homeless Center for Strafford County's generator project bid process, the award of a façade grant to the Rochester Opera House's Performing Arts Center, and the federal Congressional agreement regarding the federal budget as related to continue funding of the CDBG program.</p> <p>Councilor Lauterborn asked about the proposed Rochester housing forum scheduled for June, and Mr. Long stated that it is an outgrowth of a monthly housing discussion group co-facilitated by Mr. Long and the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast. Mr. Long stated that the Committee and full City Council would receive invitations to the June forum once the location is finalized.</p> <p>Councilor Varney requested an update on the Economic Development Office's wayfinding project, and Mr. Long stated he would provide an update at the next Committee meeting.</p>
OTHER BUSINESS	<p>Councilor Lauterborn informed the Committee that Mr. Provost will be stepping down as executive director of Rochester Main Street, with a tentative retirement set for September 2017. The Committee expressed its appreciation for Mr. Provost's hard work for Main Street and the hope that the organization's board of directors would find a new executive director to continue on Main Street's important work.</p>

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Bogan and seconded by Councilor Abbott. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, June 12th, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the City Council Conference Room at City Hall
Topics – CDBG Projects Program Report