

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE April 27, 2022 Council Chambers

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	
Chair, Ron HUE, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.	
ATTENDANCE	
	Bobbie Littrell, Vice Chair X Vel Wright Carlos D'Alessandro Christy Watts
Staff present:	Alisha Piper, Community Development Coordinator Christina Palmer, Director Management Services Jim Millbauer, City Council Liaison

INTRODUCTIONS

Ron HUE welcomed the new committee members, Carlo D'Alessandro and Jerry Martin. They both gave a quick introduction to the committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ron HUE opened the discussion on the March 2022 minutes and asked for a motion – Bobbie LITTRELL motioned for the minutes to be approved as written – Bruce DONNER seconded the motion – vote approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

OLD BUSINESS

TBRA: Alisha PIPER explained the new HOME program, regular Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), is still waiting for the RFP by Richland. However, the County's Housing Resource Center (HRC) still has rental assistance funds available.

CDBG-CV3 Funds: Alisha PIPER shared that we are waiting for updated quotes on the solar path lighting and motion detector projects, to use the remaining CV funds. Alisha reported that maintenance and repairs, are ineligible activities for CDBG funds (regular or CV), and cannot be used for the hardscape repairs at the Museum.

WA Commerce Grant (CDBG-CV2): Alisha PIPER explained that the Food Bank cannot meet the audit, record keeping, and financial requirements of the contract/grant and therefore cannot be our subrecipient. The City (and Richland) have reached out to Meals on Wheels to see how they might be able to use the funds that both cities received.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of 2022 Officers: Ron HUE opened the discussion for election of officers. Bobbie LITTRELL nominated Ron HUE for Chair; Bruce DONNER seconded the motion – vote approved unanimously. Christy WATTS nominated Bobbie LITTRELL for Vice-Chair; Vel WRIGHT seconded the motion- vote approved unanimously.

CAPER: Alisha PIPER reported the CAPER was submitted to HUD on March 31st and we are awaiting approval.

2022 HUD Award: We have not yet received the 2022 grant award from HUD and we expect the CDBG amount will be less than the 2021 award. The National Community Development Association (NCDA) has issued a letter to Congress for increased funds. **HOME ARP:** We had four bids for the allocation plan proposal and the consultant selected was Cloudburst. It will go to Richland City Council for award on May 3rd. The kickoff will probably be in May with a December completion and then to HUD for approval.

Open Public Meetings Act: Alisha PIPER reported that the committee meetings must now have a way for the public to be present in the meetings via audio, at a minimum. Alisha worked with IT to get the conference bridge phone set up and it will be available at all meetings now. The phone number is 509-585-4566 and has been posted on the website for the public to see. By June 9, 2022, the public must also have a place on the meeting agenda to give comment. It was decided by the committee, to place the "Public Comment" item after the New Business.

Bylaw edits: Alisha PIPER explained that the committee bylaws are in dire need of updating. She gave the committee copies to make comments but said she would also send out a 1st draft revision for comment. The main edits will be to the number of members (officially changed in 2011), timing of voting in new officers, define the quorum, neutral text, and grammar. The completed revision will go to the City Attorney for approval prior to signature of the officers.

ADJOURNMENT