



**City of Blue Springs
903 W. Main
Blue Springs, Missouri 64015**

**CDBG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

A meeting of the CDBG Advisory Committee of the City of Blue Springs was held in the City Hall Admin. Conf. Room 210 located at 903 W. Main Street at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 with the following members, guests and staff in attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT	Ken Horrell, Parks Jaime Russell, Downtown Review Lynn Banks, PC Rep., Vice Chair Cindy Miller, Chair	Galen Ericson, Council Dist. 1 (video/phone) Kent Edmondson, Councilmember Dist. 2
STAFF / OTHERS	Matt Wright, Com. Dev. Mike Mallon, Com. Dev. Chris Sandie, Public Works Dennis Dovel, Park (phone) Karen Findora, Recording Secretary Pam Buck, Downtown Alive! Melodie Chrisman, CSL (phone) Mary Anne Metheny, Hope House	
ABSENT	Ron Fowler, Councilmember, Dist. 3	
CALL TO ORDER	Chairperson Cindy Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.	
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Chairperson Miller requested action on the October 27, 2020, meeting minutes. Committee Member Lynn Banks made a motion to approve the minutes, a second from Committee Member Ken Horrell, and a unanimous vote, the minutes for October 27, 2020, were approved as submitted.	
OPEN PUBLIC HEARING	Chairperson Miller opened the public hearing for the Annual Action Plan at 6:02 p.m.	
AGENDA ITEM 2	Matt Wright, Assistant Director, stated that before the Committee is the first of two public hearings to review the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan / Projects &	

PUBLIC HEARING / 2021-2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN / PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Activities. On June 8, 2021 the Committee will review the requested amounts for each program. Any activity that is funded must meet at least one of the five following goals from the 2017-2021 Consolidated Plan:

- Reinvest in Downtown and Existing Neighborhoods
- Provide Assistance for First Time Home Buyers
- Support Public Services for Low-Moderate Income Persons and Areas
- Support Affordable and Accessible Housing
- Support Administration & Planning

This is the final year of the five-year plan. The City has received \$262,000 in funds for a total of \$378,000 to be programed. Mr. Wright went over what was funded in the past, that document is made part of the agenda packet. The Minor Home Repair Program has been a great success. There has been a decrease in First Time Homebuyer applications, and staff has suggested a decrease in those funds. There have been no FTHB applications approved over the past year. Currently, the residents must live in the home for three years before the lien is forgiven. Staff is recommending prorating the length of time a resident is tied to the lien. Funds will continue to go to the Fieldhouse Recreation Scholarship Program. Staff doesn't use the Administration/Planning fee to pay staff, so that money can be used for other programs. One staff member processes all of the programs. Other programs that were funded was the Downtown Façade Grant Program. Staff reviewed and updated that application to better explain the process. The Park Improvements Program will replace the basketball court at Blue Springs Park this year and is proposed to replace the HVAC equipment at Vesper Hall next year. The Sidewalk Improvements Program will take care of ADA sidewalk improvements within the low mod area if there are additional funds available.

The following activities that are requesting funds are:

- Hope House \$12,240
- Community Service League \$25,000
- Downtown Alive \$35,000

HUD has provided revised documentation that references CDBG Non-Profit Organization Capacity Building, "19C" that reads, "Payment of general operational and administrative costs of a non-profit organization is not eligible under this category." Unfortunately, funds for Downtown Alive are not eligible.

QUESTIONS

A question was asked as to where the \$35,000 would go. Mr. Wright stated that those funds could be allocated to Minor Home Repair or a sidewalk project.

Mary Anne Metheny, Hope House

Mary Anne stated that it has been beneficial to bring Hope House services to Blue Springs residents, so people don't have to travel to Lee's Summit. She stated that it's a worthy and very well utilized service. The outreach numbers have doubled, and the tele-health has helped during COVID.

Melodie Chrisman, Community Service League

Melodie stated that the CARES Act funds that they have received were expended within months. Out of the \$130,000 they have \$2,000 left to spend then they will use the \$25,000 CDBG funds for further assistance to Blue Springs residents. Now that moratoriums for utilities have been lifted, they have seen an influx of requested funds.

Councilmember Kent Edmondson questioned if a group of homeowners could pool together to apply for Minor Home Repair. Mr. Wright stated that each property owner would need to submit an application and meet the income qualifications. Councilmember Edmondson was referencing homeowners in the old downtown and their stormwater runoff. Chris Sandie, Public Works Director stated that they would have to look at the entire area so the flow would not impact others downstream. A study would have to be completed and there is a significant cost to this repair. Staff will further look into this issue to see how CDBG funds could be used to assist homeowners in this area.

HEARING CLOSED

Chairperson Miller closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.


OTHER BUSINESS

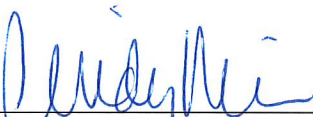
Matt Wright, Assistant Director, Community Development provided an update on CDBG-CV (CARES Act) funding usage.

The next meeting and public hearing has been noticed and scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. (City Hall – Training Room 210)

MEETING ADJOURN

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Committee Member Ken Horrell, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Lynn Banks.


Respectfully Submitted by,
Karen Findora, Recording Secretary


Cindy Miller, Chairperson


Date