



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

**CDBG ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, April 26, 2018**

A regular meeting of the CDBG Advisory Committee of the City of Blue Springs was held at the Municipal Annex in the Municipal Annex Conference Room located at 1304 W Main Street on Thursday, April 26, 2018 with the following members, guests and staff in attendance:

**VOTING MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Mitchell Peil, Planning Commission
Cindy Miller, Chairman

Susan Culpepper, Councilman 3
Jerry Kaylor, Councilman 1
Vacant

STAFF

Matt Wright, Community Development
Mike Mallon, Acting Dir., Com. Dev.
Chris Sandie, Public Works
Karen Findora, Recording Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dena Duhon, Parks
Chris Lievsay, Councilman 2

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cindy Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Miller requested action on the December 6, 2017, meeting minutes. Councilman Susan Culpepper made a motion to approve the minutes, a second from Committee Member Mitchell Peil, and a unanimous vote, the Minutes for December 6, 2017, were approved as submitted.

**AGENDA ITEM 2
PUBLIC HEARING
2018-2019 ANNUAL
ACTION PLAN /
PROJECTS &
ACTIVITIES**

Chairman Miller opened the public hearing for the Annual Action Plan at 6:01 p.m.

Matt Wright, Senior Planner, presented the draft of the 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan, with this being the first of three meetings on the matter. This meeting will be a review of past expenditures and what could be covered in this next program year. The goals for the next year are for reinvesting in the downtown and existing neighborhoods, aiding first-time homebuyers, supporting public services for low/moderate income households, supporting affordable housing, and supporting planning/administration. The funding will be discussed at the next meeting after HUD makes this information available. If the City receives the same funding as last year, the City would receive approximately \$221,000, and have slightly less than \$75,000 in carry-over funds to reallocate this year.

Chairman Miller inquired about the funds that were carried over from the previous years. Mr. Wright noted that the last two years, the plans to spend the funds had to be reamended as certain projects came up and the funds needed to be spent by a certain date. This year, the timeliness requirement does not apply, because a significant portion of funds have already been spent this year. To prevent any future issues with meeting the timeliness requirement, the City will have to be preemptive and reallocate any unused funds into projects well ahead of the deadline. Carryover funds need to be allocated to active projects for the City to retain these funds.

Mr. Wright noted that Staff recommends prioritizing funding for: the Minor Home Repair program, the First-Time Homebuyer program, the Fieldhouse Recreation Scholarships, Downtown Alive, and program administration overall. There is interest in the Downtown Façade Grant program, even though it was removed from funding for the current year. Several park improvements are possible in low/moderate income neighborhoods. Additional sidewalk work near James Walker Elementary could be considered, alongside various pedestrian improvements around the City to meet ADA requirements. Slum/Blight Acquisition & Demolition and potential remediation related to these acquisitions, could be further prioritized.

Mr. Wright stated that from 2010 to March of 2018, the First-Time Homebuyer program has had 86 recipients purchase homes in Blue Springs; a majority of this group has children, and approximately 30 in the group are single persons. The average household income for this group is slightly below \$36,000, half of the group is from Blue Springs and most of the remainder are from elsewhere in Jackson County; and over half are in the 25-34 age bracket.

Mr. Wright stated that from 2009 to the end of 2017, the Minor Home Repair program was utilized by 59 different households in 84 applications. This program is statistically similar to the First-Time Homebuyer program, except it is utilized by more single persons. The average household income for this group is around \$28,000, and the age of recipients is 54 years old. Few homes being repaired by this program are built before 1960, and approximately 50% of homes were built from 1970-1979.

Mr. Wright noted since 2006 when CDBG funding had begun, the City has expended approximately \$2.3 million, with \$362,000 being used in the last program year. This year, \$28,000 has been expended, but it is still relatively early in the year for many of the programs.

Mr. Wright did receive a request from the Community Services League for utility assistance. They outlined their services and their level of need, and are asking for \$25,000.

Councilman Culpepper inquired if funds could be allotted for Girls on Fire and Life Sports youth programs. Mr. Wright indicated that it could be a possibility to allot funding for these programs, if additional information is provided before the following meeting.

Ilene Shehan, Chief Operating Coordinator, Hope House, stated that in previous years, her agency has received CDBG funding. Hope House has a grant with the City of Blue Springs to hire a domestic violence detective and an advocate, and they work to work with survivors. Ms. Shehan asked if Hope House could receive CDBG funding to pursue therapy services in the future. Mr. Wright noted that he would need a written request following the meeting to be able to consider this proposal.

HEARING CLOSED

Chairman Miller closed the public hearing at 6:21 p.m.

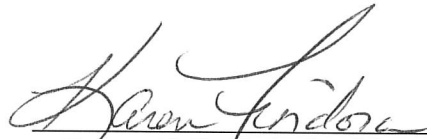
OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. (Municipal Annex Conf. Room, located at 1304 W Main Street).

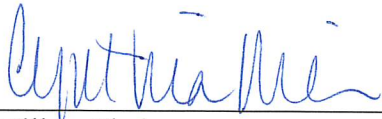
The third and final meeting would be held the week of June 11th. By this meeting, the Committee will need a recommendation for City Council, to publish the draft of the 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan, and open the 30-day public comment period.

MEETING ADJOURN

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Committee Member Mitchell Peil to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Susan Culpepper.



Respectfully Submitted by,
Karen Findora, Recording Secretary



Cindy Miller, Chairman

5/10/18

Date