



NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 7, 2022

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Clarksville Neighborhood and Community Services Committee was called to order by Chairperson Stacey Streetman on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the Workforce Essentials Montgomery Room, 523 Madison Street, Suite A, Clarksville, Tennessee.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present at the meeting:

Chairperson Stacey Streetman; Councilpersons Ambar Marquis, DaJuan Little, Karen Reynolds, and Brian Zacharias; Neighborhood and Community Services staff members LaVon Bracey, Vy Cornett, Clarissa Tucker, Brittney Cates, Deborah Johnson, Dennis Newburn, and Crystal Griffith; and Internal Auditors Jennifer Osteen and Charlie DeHarde.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Chairperson Streetman entertained a motion and second to adopt the minutes. Councilperson Marquis made a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Little and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Streetman advised the committee that the first two items on the Agenda, HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP) Amendment and HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Award Recommendations, would be presented together.

Chairperson Streetman turned the floor over to Clarksville Neighborhood and Community Services (CNCS) staff members for new business.

LaVon Bracey provided an overview of the HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP).

Ms. Bracey explained that in September 2021, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded approximately \$1.8 million of federally allocated HOME-ARP funds to the City of Clarksville to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness as well as assisting other vulnerable populations.

Ms. Bracey described the types of eligible activities for which the funds may be used. In order to access funding, CNCS will need to prepare and submit an allocation plan to HUD. The City plans to use the majority of HOME-ARP for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.

As required by HUD program rules, a Request for Proposal was sent to three organizations experienced in homelessness issues to offer management services for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance. The United Way was the sole respondent to the RFP. CNCS is currently working with the United Way for the purposes of formulating a contract. CNCS has allocated \$1.5 million for program delivery and administration.

Chairperson Streetman entertained a motion and second to accept the recommendation for the HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance. Councilperson Little made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Marquis and passed unanimously.

Women's Month Event - Overview

Vy Cornett informed the committee that CNCS has collaborated with the Mayor's office to create a Women's History Month Event. The event will be a panel discussion comprised of three to five local women in leadership and will be held on March 22, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Roxy Regional Theatre. The purpose of this event is to celebrate and honor the contributions of women to the community during the pandemic and is in support of the Mayor's inclusion and diversity initiatives.

Emergency Rehabilitation (New Program) - Overview

Clarissa Tucker explained to the committee that this new program was implemented to complement the substantial housing rehabilitation program already in place at CNCS. This new program will be federally funded using CDBG monies. The goals of this program are to aid in the elimination of substandard housing within the City of Clarksville, preserve the existing housing stock, and expedite the timeframe that low- to moderate-income households receive rehab assistance. Approximately \$100,000.00 is allocated for program funding in Fiscal Year 2022 with more to be allocated in Fiscal Year 2023. It is projected that this new program will launch by February 28, 2022.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application Proposal Reviews

Brittney Cates informed the committee that after the Staff Eligibility Review process, 20 applications were qualified as eligible for CDBG funding. Ms. Cates presented each agency's 3-minute video proposal for open review by the committee and thereafter, a 3-minute timeframe was afforded for the committee to ask questions of the applicants.

Ms. Cates explained that as part of the next steps in the process

- The committee must complete scoring by February 11, 2022.
- Scores will be compiled and then applications will go to Dennis Newburn for review and to the Mayor for review.
- At the next special meeting on March 21, 2022, funding recommendations will be announced.

PUBLIC COMMENTS *(five minutes each)*

Valerie Guzman of United Way assured the committee that funds granted are used wisely, the non-profit agencies work together to assist all members of the community in whatever way possible when trying to ensure needs are being met, and that there is a system in place to help non-profits avoid duplication of their services and assist in identifying populations not being served.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Streetman entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilperson Little to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Marquis and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.