

Grants Committee Meeting

March 11, 2015

MINUTES

Members Present:

Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Oliver Hamilton, Sr.
Roy Mosely, Jr.
Kenneth Sharkey
John West

Members Excused:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman

Staff Present:

Terry W. Beach, Executive Director
Christina Anderson, CDBG Program Coordinator
Connie DeRousse, Fiscal Manager
Latosha Johnson, HRC Program Coordinator
Mary Pulliam, LIHEAP Program Coordinator
Rick Stubblefield, Governance & Program Coordinator
Jennifer Little, Administrative Assistant

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In the absence of Chairman Kassly, Vice Chairman Vernier called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the IGD Administrative Conference Room.

Vice Chairman Vernier asked if there were comments from the public on the agenda. There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. Mosley the minutes from the February 11, 2015 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sharkey and a second by Mr. Hamilton the letter from the Grants Committee Chairman to the County Board Chairman transmitting the payroll and expense claims for the month of February, 2015 was approved unanimously.

There were no questions concerning the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of February, 2015 being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Services Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Development Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Workforce Development Group report being placed on file.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. Mosley, the Check Register Summaries, as well as the Community Services, Community Development and Workforce Development Group reports were approved unanimously to be placed on file.

Resolutions

- A. Terry Beach introduced a resolution proclaiming April 6 through April 11, 2015 as "St. Clair County Community Development Week". Mr. West offered a motion to approve and Mr. Sharkey seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Vernier called for a vote to approve; the motion was approved unanimously.

- B. Terry Beach introduced a resolution proclaiming the month of April 2015 as "Fair Housing Month" in St. Clair County. Mr. Mosley offered a motion to approve and Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Vernier called for a vote to approve; the motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

New Business

A. Director's Report

- Jim Schultz, the new Director of DCEO [Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity] called to introduce himself. The new Assistant Director, Andrea Winters, also contacted Mr. Beach last week and discussed the NGA project as well as concerns that Community Action Agencies and others have concerning the Governor's budget. Mr. Beach was also contacted by Alex Maggos, the new Downstate Director for U.S. Senator Mark Kirk, for updates regarding our concerns, programs, and the NGA project. Mr. Beach stated Mr. Maggos replaced Randy Pollard, who is now Governor Rauner's Downstate Director.
- Community Development – Received the Program Year 2015 grant award letter for \$3.2 million county-wide for Belleville and East St. Louis; as well as \$844,000+ in HOME funding. A press release was recently run in a number of local publications regarding \$1.5 million the County granted in current program year funding to thirteen communities/townships for a variety of public facilities. The Weatherization program received a good monitoring letter from the state; Mr. Beach shared the letter at the last Department Head Meeting. IGD received the end-of-year fourth-quarter report from HUD [Department of Housing and Urban Development] headquarters concerning the Lead Reduction Risk Program; IGD received 100 out of 100. It has been placed on the IGD Facebook page. There was a recent article in the BND [Belleville News Democrat] regarding the Moderate Rehab program application process; it has also been placed on the County website along with the survey instrument being used as part of the 5-year Consolidated Plan review process. There have been two recent positive articles in the BND; one covering the Needs Survey and the second covering the Moderate Rehab program. There are six more public hearing in March for the public to give their comments and opinions.
- Workforce Development Group – WIA is transitioning to the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act, or WIOA, which takes effect July 1st of this year; unfortunately the regulations are not out so it is unclear how Workforce Investment Boards throughout the U.S. will implement the new laws/procedures which lean towards businesses rather than job seekers. Mr. Beach and Rick Stubblefield will attend a DCEO Workforce and Education Strategic Plan Regional Forum held at Lewis and Clark Community College in April. Mr. Stubblefield and staff are working with the state to assist approximately 40 workers laid off from Huntsman, the former Pfizer plant. IGD has agreed to be a sponsor for the third annual job fair hosted by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority to be

held March 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Jackie Joyner Kersee (JJK) Center in East St. Louis; 2000 attendees are expected; 400 individuals got meaningful jobs last year. Events are also held several days prior for preparedness; the job fair ad is on the IGD Facebook page.

- Community Services – Cassandra Williams and Jackie Marion are attending the annual CSBG Roundtable discussion at DCEO in Springfield. A Poverty Simulation seminar was recently held at the Shrine; most IGD employees were in attendance.
- LIHEAP – There is concern with the State's budget having an impact on the State LIHEAP add-on, PIPP in particular. If the budget goes through, funding for approximately 1,500 PIPP participants will be eliminated. The budget will sweep out social service funds to cover the debt. Senate President John Cullerton opposes the budget; Speaker of the House Michael Madigan has not yet issued a strong opinion; the budget is a big concern for IGD as there will be fewer dollars for delivery of services to those most in need.
- Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti is coming to MidAmerica Airport/Scott AFB tomorrow [March 12th] from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; Chairman Kern will greet her; Mr. Beach, Frank Miles from Madison County, Ellen Krohne from the Leadership Council are co-chairs of the Scott AFB task force and will present a power point presentation reflecting what is being done to save Scott AFB. Scott AFB has an economic impact of over \$3 billion dollars, 13,000 jobs, and 30,000 retirees who live in this area.
- Senior Congressional staff from Senator Dick Durbin and Senator Mark Kirk's office, and three members of Congress Mike Bost, John Shimkus, Rodney Davis, their Senior staff including their committee staff for Armed Services will meet at MidAmerica Airport/Scott AFB on March 20th for an update on NGA and the potential 3,000 jobs at the MidAmerica property located by the new Exit 21 on Interstate 64.
- Governor Rauner will also be in St. Clair County on March 20th; he will meet with Boeing Senior Executives and tour the Boeing facility. Tim Cantwell, Chairman Kern, and Mr. Beach will brief the Governor on things happening in the County and at MidAmerica Airport. The Governor will then meet with senior Generals and tour Scott AFB. Mr. Beach will attend an Economic Summit coordinated by Mr. Schultz with other state department heads which will be held at the Regency Conference Center.

June Chartrand asked if there was a date for closures regarding the BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure]. Mr. Beach explained Congress has no desire for another BRAC; they passed several bills a year ago stating there would not be another BRAC until 2017; the White House and the Department of Defense want another BRAC because there is a surplus of bases. He further explained many who belong to the Association of Defense Communities, communities such as St. Clair County that are impacted by a base, desire foreign bases outside the fifty states close first. Mr. Beach stated it is personnel cost rather than building cost that has led to RIF's [Reduction in Force]. The concern is a semi-BRAC that will cut through the sequestration process that is going on now. He expressed the future is cyber/IT, other flying missions; retired 4-Star General Duncan McNabb, as well as former Congressman Jerry Costello are the County's consultants. Mr. Beach stated the County is being diligent; the state has committed to \$2 million dollars which is on hold due to the change in the state Governor's mansion; the same amount of funds have been raised in the private sector with St. Clair County and Madison Counties contributing \$50,000 each to start fundraising.

Other Comments

Mr. Beach stated he will provide a Director's Report every month. Mr. Mosley and committee members stated they appreciated the report and updates.

Vice Chairman Vernier, on behalf of members, complimented Mr. Beach and staff for the positive Executive Director transition and expressed appreciation for the work being accomplished.

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Vernier entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. West, Vice Chairman Vernier adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.