

Grants Committee Meeting

August 9, 2017

MINUTES

Members Present:

Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Willie Dancy
Susan Gruberman
John West

Members Excused:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman
Roy Mosley, Jr.

Staff Present:

Terry Beach, Executive Director
Jennifer Little, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Fred Boch, St. Clair County Board Member

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

Attendees rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. West, and a second by Mrs. Gruberman, the minutes from the July 12, 2017 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand, and a second by Mrs. Gruberman, the letter from the Grants Committee Chairman to the County Board Chairman transmitting the payroll and expense claims for the month of July, 2017 was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Dancy, and a second by Mr. West, the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of July, 2017 were approved unanimously and placed on file. IGD financial statements were present for review.

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

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

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

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand, and a second by Mrs. Gruberman, the Community Services, Community Development, and Workforce Development Group reports were approved unanimously and placed on file.

Resolutions

None

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Director's Report

- Terry Beach reviewed each of the group reports contained in the committee packet:

Fiscal – Mr. Beach noted check register summaries not only include IGD employee payroll but youth program payroll as well.

Community Services - Mr. Beach stated the Community Services Block Grant program helps those most in need including low to very-low income individuals and households; additionally, CSBG funds are provided directly to other non-profits such as Mt. Sinai. He informed members he, Chairman Kern, and Program Coordinator Mary Pulliam visited Mt. Sinai last week to give them an additional \$15,000 in funding.

LIHEAP - Mr. Beach informed members the LIHEAP program will start October 1st for households with seniors over sixty and disabled; November 1st for households with children under six and those whose utilities are disconnected; and December 1st for all other eligible households. He noted the numbers served in this month's report are low as the program is not currently open. Mr. Dancy asked about the income guidelines for the LIHEAP program. Mr. Beach responded the income guidelines listed are for thirty days; the state requires IGD to look at thirty day income or annual income. Mr. Boch asked if an individual receives assistance through an IGD program, does it disqualify them from receiving assistance through a township. Mr. Beach responded no.

Community Development - Mr. Beach explained the Community Development report details the status of projects, usually streets and sewers, of cities and townships that applied for CDBG funds. He noted it also reflects updates to HOME funds for the moderate rehab and first-time homebuyer programs. Mr. Beach explained first-time homebuyers must meet income guidelines, be credit-worthy, and secure their own financing to be eligible for down payment and closing cost assistance; applicants are also required to attend a budgeting class before they receive assistance. He also noted CD did not get a lead grant this year.

Housing Resource Center - Mr. Beach stated 110 new households comprised of 124 adults and 253 children received assistance through HRC; they also serviced 26 homeless walk-ins and 84 homeless phone assessments.

Workforce Development Group – Mr. Beach reminded staff this is a five county program utilizing federal workforce dollars; the program has six locations. He stated Program Coordinator Rick Stubblefield also goes to Scott AFB every other Friday to assist airmen with the TAP program. Mr. Beach explained all airmen leaving any branch of the military that are not of retirement age are required to participate in this program to receive their discharge papers. The program assists with resume writing, how to network, job training, higher education opportunities, and job searches. Three program staff are also located at the Illinois Job Center at 4500 West Main Belleville; the location allows IGD staff to better assist those meeting with state employees and filing for unemployment. IGD has Workforce staff in Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, and Washington counties.

- Mr. Beach distributed a summary of the Program Year 2017 Public Facilities budget. He stated CDBG always receives more requests from cities than what funding levels can assist with. He explained projects are rated by staff. Infrastructure projects must be in low-moderate income neighborhoods based on census data; 51% or more of those living in a neighborhood must be low to moderate income; or proposed projects must have a direct benefit on 51% of the low to moderate income residents in the neighborhood; so people or neighborhoods have to qualify. Ratings also take into consideration if funding has been received in the past, if the funding was spent timely, and if cities are contributing local funds of their own. Mr. Boch asked if there was a minimum. Mr. Beach responded no; most cities will match but some are unable to.

Mr. West offered a motion to approve the Director's Report and Mrs. Chartrand seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Vernier called for a vote to approve; the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Beach informed Mrs. Chartrand Dupo's project for Linden Ave. to Goldin was rated high and they were to receive approximately \$70,000; however they submitted a letter declining the funds as they do not have the funds to match.

Mr. Beach explained Belleville is entitled to their CDBG funds however they choose to have them handled by IGD. IGD also handles the East St. Louis allocations. Cities pick their projects which are then managed by IGD. He stated Program Year 2017 funds will be available in October.

- Mr. Beach informed members he recently attended the NACO Conference in Columbus, Ohio. He brought back valuable information regarding what other counties are accomplishing. He has discussed ideas with Chairman Kern.

Other Comments

None

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Vernier entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mr. Dancy, and a second by Mrs. Chartrand, Vice Chairman Vernier adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.