

Special Grants Committee Meeting

August 28, 2017

MINUTES

Members Present:

Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Willie Dancy
Susan Gruberman
Roy Mosley, Jr.
John West

Members Excused:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman

Staff Present:

Terry Beach, Executive Director
Jennifer Little, Administrative Assistant
Latosha Johnson, Housing Resource Center Program Coordinator

Others Present:

Mark A. Kern, St. Clair County Board Chairman
Bob Allen, St. Clair County Board Member
Fred Boch, St. Clair County Board Member
Herb Simmons, 911 Executive Director

In Chairman Kassly's absence, Vice Chairman Vernier called the special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in County Board Meeting Room B-564.

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.

Resolutions

Mr. Beach introduced a Resolution authorizing the St. Clair County Board Chairman to accept a grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Rental Housing Support Program Round 1 2017 renewals; to authorize the St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department (IGD) to administer the Rental Housing Support Program utilizing these funds; and to authorize the Executive Director of the Intergovernmental Grants Department to execute necessary agreements with IHDA. He informed members the resolution could not be presented in time for the August Grants Committee meeting.

Mr. Beach explained the program has been with IGD for a number of years and assists the homeless and near homeless population. It is a three year grant for a total of \$721,000 in funding; approximately \$240,000 per year. He introduced Latosha Johnson the Coordinator of the Housing Resource Center at the Intergovernmental Grants Department. This program has twenty-eight units with landlords throughout the County. Mr. West offered a motion to approve and Mrs. Chartrand seconded the motion.

Mr. Mosley asked if this program assists with residents displaced from condemned homes. Mr. Beach responded no; Community Services programs assist in those cases. He added we have a number of various programs that assist with housing. Ms. Johnson added this particular program

has contracts with landlords to rent particular units. Mr. Mosley asked if this was an emergency program; Mr. Beach responded no. Mrs. Gruberman asked if a homeless person could be placed in one of the apartments with which we have a contract. Ms. Johnson responded no; she stated this particular program subsidizes rent and currently has a waiting list. Mr. Mosley asked how long a person's rent is subsidized. Ms. Johnson responded indefinitely as long as the program continues to receive grant funding. Mr. Mosley asked if clients renew. Ms. Johnson stated some renew; however some are dropped when they no longer meet income eligibility guidelines, the landlord can then choose to replace that unit with another client. Mr. Mosley asked if the replacement comes from the waiting list. Ms. Johnson responded yes. Mrs. Chartrand asked if there are programs available for homeless individuals. Mr. Beach responded yes. Ms. Johnson added they receive approximately \$3 million in funding for various programs that provide assistance.

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

Other Comments

None

Adjournment

Vice Chairman Vernier entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Mr. Mosley, and a second by Mrs. Gruberman, Vice Chairman Vernier adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.