Grants Committee Meeting

May 10, 2017

M I N U T E S

Members Present:
Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Susan Gruberman
John West

Members Excused:
Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman
Willie Dancy
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 5:31 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 April 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 April, 2017 was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. West, and a second by Mrs. Chartrand, the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of April, 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 Mr. West, and a second by Mrs. Gruberman, the Community Services, Community Development, and Workforce Development Group reports were approved unanimously and placed on file.

Resolutions

A. Mr. Beach introduced a Resolution authorizing the St. Clair County Board Chairman to prepare, submit, and execute an application (Annual Action Plan) to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for PY2017 funds to assist the County to fulfill the requirements outlined in the PY2015-2019 St. Clair County Consolidated Plan. Mrs. Chartrand offered a motion to approve and Mrs. Gruberman seconded the motion.

   Mr. Beach explained the Annual Action Plan is required to be submitted annually as part of the Consolidated Plan. The AAP details projects that are proposed for various cities and townships for

Program Year 2017 which starts October 1st. Upon approval by County Board later this month, the Annual Action Plan will be submitted to HUD.

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

B. Mr. Beach introduced a resolution approving a Community Development Block Grant Cooperation Agreement and authorizing the Chairman to execute the agreement between the City of Belleville and St. Clair County. Mrs. Gruberman offered a motion to approve and Mr. West seconded the motion.

Mr. Beach informed members every three years the City of Belleville enters an agreement with the County to administer their approximate $650,000 in CDBG funds. He added the East St. Louis program was given to the County to administer; however, East St. Louis also signs an agreement for the County to administer their funding. This Resolution as well as the following Resolution allows the Chairman to sign and enter a contract with both the City of Belleville and the City of East St. Louis to administer their CDBG funding. Mr. Boch asked if County gets administrative fees for managing funding. Mr. Beach responded yes; up to 20% can be allocated for admin costs, IGD is currently around 9% department-wide.

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

C. Mr. Beach introduced a Resolution approving a Community Development Block Grant Cooperation Agreement and authorizing the Chairman to execute the agreement between the City of East St. Louis and St. Clair County. Mrs. Chartrand offered a motion to approve and Mr. West seconded the motion.

Mr. Beach stated this Resolution is the same as the previous Resolution but for the City of East St. Louis. The City picks the projects to be completed; HUD requires the projects are in priority neighborhoods and the projects have to qualify and found to be eligible. Mr. West asked how much funding is allocated for the City of East St. Louis. Mr. Beach responded approximately $1.5 million. He added total funding is around $3.1 million for the County, City of Belleville, and the City of East St. Louis. The County's allocation is for cities and townships outside of Belleville and East St. Louis.

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

D. Mr. Beach introduced a Resolution approving a HOME Investment Partnerships Consortium Agreement and authorizing the Chairman to execute the agreement between St. Clair County and the City of Belleville and the City of East St. Louis. Mr. West offered a motion to approve and Mrs. Chartrand seconded the motion.

Mr. Beach stated this Resolution is similar to the previous however allows the County to administer HOME funding for the City of Belleville and the City of East St. Louis for three years. HOME funding is used for first-time homebuyers, assistance to housing non-profits, and for the moderate rehabilitation program that assists low-income owner-occupied be brought up to code. Mr. West asked if this program was proposed to be eliminated. Mr. Beach responded yes; IGD would lose approximately 65% of the agency's funding and would lead to the layoffs if the proposed federal budget is approved as currently presented. Mrs. Chartrand asked if staff in other County's would be cut as well. Mr. Beach responded no; the staff located in outer counties work for the Workforce Development group and WIOA funding is not proposed to be cut. Mr. West asked for the reasoning for cutting CDBG funding. Mr. Beach responded the funding will be reallocated to defense spending. He added the CDBG program has strong bipartisan support as the funding goes to sewers, streets, home buying, demolition, and small-business loans. He believes there will be a large organized fight to keep CDBG funding. Mr. West asked if there is a success rate for those we help; if there is training provided to clients. Mr. Beach responded clients are required to complete homeownership and budgeting classes. He added clients also have to meet credit criteria for the homebuyer program. Mrs. Chartrand asked if holiday food certificates would be cut. Mr. Beach responded yes; Community Services and LIHEAP are proposed to be cut as well.

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

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Director's Report

- Terry Beach stated the first Resolution passed this evening was in regards to the Annual Action Plan which details proposed projects starting October 1st. Public hearings regarding the Plan will be held on Tuesday June 13th. The first hearing will be at 1:00 p.m. in the IGD Administrative Conference Room; the second hearing will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the Mary Brown Center in East St. Louis. He invited members to attend one of the public hearings.

- Mr. Beach informed members Community Services staff and one fiscal staff member are currently in Springfield attending the IACAA conference for training.

  Mr. West offered a motion to approve the Director's Report and Mrs. Gruberman seconded the motion.

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 Mrs. Chartrand, and a second by Mr. West, Vice Chairman Vernier adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.