



*Duluth Community Development Program Mission is to invest in community programs that help low to moderate income people by addressing **basic needs**, providing **affordable housing** and increasing economic **self-sufficiency**.*

City of Duluth
Community Development Committee
November 28, 2017 5:30 PM
City Council Chambers
Meeting Summary

I. Call to Order

Chair Randy Brody called to order the meeting of the City Community Development Committee at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, in the Council Chamber on the 3rd Floor of City Hall.

II. Roll Call

Attending: Randy Brody, Hamilton Smith, Mark Osthus, Noland Makowsky, Abigail Mlinar
Absent: Debra Branley, Cruz Mendoza
Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Ben VanTassel, Suzanne Kelley, Chris Lee, Emilie Voight

III. Approval of Meeting Summary: November 28, 2017

MOTION/Second: Othus/Makowsky to approve the November 28th meeting summary. No discussion. Motion Passed. **Vote: (4-0)**

IV. Overview of the public hearing and review of the public comments received during the 30-day comment period

Fulton stated that the city has received multiple comments for proposals and notes that there are more comments than received in previous years. He states that feedback from the community regarding providing comments should have earlier due date than the meeting date. Most comments are regarding Keene Creek, others come from Landlord Incentives, Lake Superior Community Health Center, and Pine Grove Apartments.

Brody stated there is lots of information to address at this meeting and suggests the members take a moment to review letters. He understands there is not much time to realistically read them, but would like to provide enough time for members to quickly review comments. He wants any members of the public to please speak to their comments if they submitted them.

Fulton updated the audience on the FY 2018 funding, discussed the three federal programs for funding, and discussed the scoring by the committee for their recommendations. City Council action will likely take place at their January meetings.

V. Public hearing on the FY 2018 Action Plan: Brody opened public hearing

Brody stated that speakers signed up to speak will have three minutes and that they will be called to speak in the order they signed up.

Jason Beckman of SOAR gave overview for Duluth at Work program and stated that the money goes to three organizations (SOAR, Lifehouse, CAD). Discussed goal to help people gain essential career skills and promote job sustainability.

Jessie Petterson of Lake Superior Community Health Center discussed the goals and objectives of LSCHC, expressed support of the dental hygienists chairs and described the use of the chairs in clinics and “on the road” for dental work outside the clinic.

Lori Magerl of MACV expressed the support for funding for MACV and how the funding will assist veterans in finding employment, housing, and safe places.

Denette Lynch of 6004 Highland Street shared photos of Keene Creek park. Expressed the importance of Keene Creek Park for the community. The most work that needs to be done is in the path due to the unsafe conditions. The city will match the funding to make improvements to the park.

Bill Lynch of 6004 Highland Street: Shared video depicting wheelchair user on the paths. Linda Mann of 15 Bianco Drive, expressed support for Keene Creek and how the park is a place for everyone and is a vital community asset.

Joy Gustafson of 701 West Superior Street, expressed support for the Keene Creek dog park and mentioned she uses the park but the path makes it difficult to get around the park.

Debbie Miller of 2210 West 5th St., expressed support for Keene Creek. She regularly uses the park and that the path is in terrible shape for people with and without disabilities.

Amanda Crosby of Access North Center for Independent Living, expressed the support for Keene Creek and the needs to improve the park for people with disabilities.

Jodi Slick of Ecolibrium3 expressed support to the Giving Comfort at Home program and how the services being offered help in preventing homelessness. Expressed support for the Lincoln Park Specialized Improvement Area to helping with improving Lincoln Park and revitalizing the neighborhood.

Sarah Haugen, community member, expressed support for the Keene Creek dog park and improving and maintaining the paths for equal access to the park for all people.

Brody asked if anyone else would like to speak, to which no one came forward, and closed public hearing at 6:15 p.m.

VI. Committee Recommendation: FY 2018 Action Plan

Brody stated that one of the challenges is that there are so many great projects that apply with only so much funding to go around. He mentioned that they previously agreed to shift some public facility funds into housing. He stated that the committee is not opposed to the Keene Creek project, but that shifting funds to housing will help to take pressure off housing programs and provide more opportunities for housing.

Smith said he is happy to see the support for Keene Creek and that we have to make tough decisions with funding, wants to see more funding for housing which is a major need for the city. If we were to keep the funding for Keene, then the money should still come from Public Facilities and not be shifting from other categories.

Brody suggests to make changes in the Public Facilities funding.

Osthus said Keene Creek should look for other groups within the community to help fund improvements.

Fulton stated that the money was going to be matched half/half for the park with money coming from tourism funding. The important part of this proposal is that there is a nexus with flood mitigation and improvement for the park in the Consolidated Plan.

Smith asked how much is the matching funds? Would reduction in the Committee recommendation affect the match funding? To which Fulton responded that the match will most likely be affected by timing, but Parks can determine how they want to proceed.

Brody asks if the committee wants to vary from targeted funds. He is seeking a motion for changes to recommendations.

Osthus makes motion to move ahead as funding stands. No Second.

MOTION/Second: Makowsky/Smith to reduce the Blight Removal Project by \$30,000 and increase the Keene Creek Park project by \$30,000. **Vote: (5-0)**

Committee Recommendation to Finalize Funding amounts and for Submittal to the City Council:

MOTION/Second: Osthus/Smith to finalize the program funding amounts and submit to City Council for Approval. **Vote: (5-0)**

VII. Other Business

A. Committee of the Whole with Council – Dates and Process

Brody is seeking recommendation on how to present to the Committee of the Whole. He determined that everyone will take a piece and present.

Fulton said that these recommendations will likely to come to Council in Jan 8 or 22, each program area will have its own recommendation. Also mentioned that the Community Development Committee is seeking two applicants for vacant positions on the committee

MOTION/Second: Smith/Osthus to Adjourn. **Vote: (5-0)**

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 P.M.