



**Planning & Development Division**  
*Planning & Economic Development Department*

Room 160  
411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

218-730-5580

planning@duluthmn.gov

Community Development Committee Meeting Summary

Tuesday, June 22, 2021, 5:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting- Web- EX

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Pat Sterner called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm

Attending: Pat Sterner, Hamilton Smith, Theresa O'Halloran-Johnson, Steve Wick, Mike Mayou, Valerie Joeckel

Absent: Mark Osthus, Anthony Reed-Fuglestad

Staff Present: Ben VanTassel, Suzanne Kelley

2. Review of Virtual Meeting Protocol and Process

Manager Ben VanTassel provided an overview of the virtual meeting process; he explained that the meeting was available for people to attend virtually and individuals would have the option to provide comments during the public hearings through the Web-Ex system.

3. \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\* for 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

Senior Planner Kelley provided an overview of the 2020 CAPER and discussed the various accomplishments by the agencies this past year. Kelley also provided a summary of accomplishments for the first round of the CARES Act Funding, explaining the relationship between the funding programs. The 2020 CAPER was to address the goals in the 2020 Action, while the CARES Act funding was to address the immediate effects of the pandemic.

Chair Sterner opened the public hearing for comments.

- Lee Stuart-CHUM- thanked the Committee's support of CHUM programming, especially as she has seen the facility grow to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness. She stated that she would be retiring at the end of June and John Cole would be the new executive director. The Committee thanked Lee for years of work at CHUM.
- Jordan Johnson-Life House- thanked the committee this is an important time to provide opportunities for youth (18-24) experiencing homelessness and stated how Life House was able to continue operations during the pandemic.
- Colleen Kelley-Center City- discussed the importance of housing programs during this past year and thanked the Committee for the CARES funding that allowed them to purchase new laptops

- Jill Keppers –Duluth HRA-thanked the Committee for funding the various programs at the HRA and explained how they were meeting goals in the community.
- Jason Beckman-SOAR-thanked the Committee and explain how SOAR will be able to meet the 2020 goal and that the CARE program is still process.
- Rosalyn Horn-Salvation Army-thanked the Committee and explained how permanent supportive housing had difficulty making their goal due to COVID 19, many families in the transitional units were staying and that there was an increase in mental health issues.
- Brittany Robb- Safe Haven- thanked the Committee stated it was a difficult year due to the increase in people who needed services, but they thought the increase was an outcome due to better outreach in the community; therefore more people were receiving the service because they were aware of the programming.
- Noah Hobbs-One Roof Community Housing- thanked the Committee and explained how the increase in lumber prices was affecting the various programs at One Roof, including One Roof Lending, Decker Dwelling and the Acquisition Rehab. He also stated it is difficult to get contractors for bids.
  - Committee Member Hamilton asked if the labor shortage in skilled labor had an impact.
  - Hobbs told the committee the skilled labor shortage was making jobs more expensive and increasing the length of jobs.

At 6:32 Chair Sterner closed the Public Hearing for the 2020 CAPER. Chair Sterner thanked the agencies and for their comments. The Committee approved the submittal of the 2020 CAPER to HUD.

4. \*\*PUBLIC HEARING\*\* for Correction in FY2021 CDBG Award and Finalize Revised FY 2021 CDBG Recommendations

Manager VanTassel explained the HUD has reallocated an additional \$35,760 in CDBG funds to the City of Duluth; therefore the 2021 Action Plan would have to be amended to include these funds. He explained that these funds would be allocated to the Public Facility projects because the other projects in the 2021 Program Year were either full funded or were capped for their allocation, such as Public Service. In addition, the pandemic has created a significant increase on construction costs, so this funding would assist the agencies.

The Final Funding recommendations for the 2021 Public Facilities

Spirit Valley Updates & Efficiencies- Duluth YWCA was increased from \$50,033 to \$59,830

Acq/Demolition/Preparation- City of Duluth was increased from \$88,958 to \$91,977

Niiwin Indigenous Foods Market- AICHO was increased from \$135,088 to \$150,000

- Noah Hobbs-One Roof Community Housing- thanked the Committee for their work.
- Jordon Johnson-Life House- thanked the Committee for their work
- Kira Kallberg-Center City- thanked the committee and explained how leverage of funds increases the amount of funds in the community.

At 6:44, Chair Sterner closed the Public Hearing for the Correction in FY 2021 funds.

**MOTION/Second:** Smith/Wick to approve the FY 2021 CDBG Recommendations. **Vote (6-0)**

5. Finalize FY 2022 Funding Priorities

Manager VanTassel explained the Target Goals are used to evaluate the applications. One of the main reasons the 2021 target goals were not met was that no large multifamily development project was submitted for funding, which could have been due to the pandemic. After discussion, the Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to mirror the 2021 goals due to the continued need of affordable housing in Duluth.

**MOTION/Second:** Smith/Mayou to approve the FY 2022 CDBG Funding Priorities to match the 2021 CDBG Funding Priorities. **Vote (6-0)**

**MOTION/Second:** O'Halloran-Johnson/ Joeckel to approve the FY 2022 HOME Funding Priorities to match the 2021 HOME Funding Priorities. **Vote (6-0)**

**MOTION/Second:** Mayou/Wick to approve the FY 2022 ESG Funding Priorities to match the 2021 ESG Funding Priorities. **Vote (6-0)**

6. Adjourn (Next meeting, July 27, 2021)

**MOTION/Second:** O'Halloran-Johnson/Wick to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. **Vote (6-0)**