

**MEETING SUMMARY OF THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CDC)
MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, February 28, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – DULUTH CITY HALL**

Present: Debra Branley, Daniel Nyquist, Bill Kimbler, Michael Ramsey, Daryl Yankee, Jim Gaylord, and Kristi Gordon

Staff: Keith Hamre and Charles Froseth

Others Present: None

Roll Call: A quorum was present. Chair Kimbler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Meeting Summary from January 31, 2012

Motion by Gaylord, seconded by Yankee to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2102 meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Review of FY 2012 Funding Awards

Hamre read a note of thanks and appreciation from City Councilor Emily Larson for the hard work of the Committee. Discussion of City Council action regarding increasing funds for Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV). Committee noted MACV does good work. The problem is they made the Committee appear to be unpatriotic and anti-veteran. This is not the case as the Committee considers each application on its merits as opposed to the organization. Concern expressed that this may set a bad precedent for future recommendations of the Committee. Most organizations acknowledged the financial issue facing the Committee decision and accepted the cuts across the board. Hamre noted the service goal for MACV was increased by 22 persons as they now had an increase in funds. The Committee noted City Council did not have as much time as in previous years to review the recommendations and suggested we get the recommendations to Council earlier. Most Committee members noted they should have paid more attention to the scoring, and they will be more cognizant of scoring next year. Hamre suggested that transitional housing be one application modeled after the Hunger Project. Committee agreed this would be a more equitable approach.

3. Review of 2013 Action Plan Time Line

Hamre reviewed the calendars with the Committee noting the May meetings are not fixed and details are being worked out for these public meetings as staff is working with At Home and their role at these public meetings. One change to the calendar is the October meeting is October 30, and not October 25. Discussion of scoring system and potential changes to the process. Picking up on earlier discussion Hamre updated the Committee that staff will be reviewing

the scoring system with particular attention being paid to past performance and if the applicant met their goals. As part of the review staff will re-consider how the points are distributed within the scoring process. Committee agreed it was time for a comprehensive review and are looking forward to the updating the scoring system. In response to the question on whether the Committee would continue to have applicants file a pre-application the consensus was a strong yes as this would give them a chance to see if the applicant had met their goals, if they have left over funding, and how will 2013 funds be used. Gordon felt grants are to be scored versus the program being offered and last year the scoring system became irrelevant as the Committee deviated from their procedures. There should be more emphasis on scoring as it applies to the application for funding. Nyquist stated they should stick to the scoring and base funding on the scoring, not public input. The Committee's process does include public input, but scoring should be a larger factor according to Gaylord. Yankee asked about the high, medium and low priorities of the Consolidated Plan and funding basic needs. He and other Committee members felt they are too many priorities and a revision is needed. Hamre responded the Committee can take a look at the priorities and change them accordingly. Staff members Froseth and Olesen are charged with providing the Committee a mock up for Committee consideration. Discussion on public pressure on City Council. Hamre provided a historical perspective on what has happened and the consequences of changing Committee recommendations. Yankee offered a suggestion that the Committee provide City Council an educational component of the process followed so Council has a better understanding of how the funding recommendations were reached.

4. Election of Officers

Next month the Community Development Committee will hold an election of officers.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Submitted:
Charles Froseth