



*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
May 16, 2017: 5:30 PM
City Hall Room 303
Meeting Summary

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Attending: Randy Brody, Abigail Mlinar, Hamilton Smith
Absent: Debra Branley, Cruz Mendoza, Mark Othus
Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Karen Olesen, Ben VanTassel

Chair Brody noted that there was a vacancy on the Community Development Committee and interested parties should consider applying.

II. Discuss HUD Monitoring Visit (week of 5/1)

Manager Adam Fulton summarized the recent HUD monitoring visit as a positive one, but that HUD suggested the city make some minor procedural changes. Planning staff will be working to ensure the changes are made over the next couple months.

III. Community Development & Housing Needs Public Hearing

Manager Adam Fulton gave a brief presentation on current housing related projects and efforts. Chair Randy Brody mentioned some potential funding shifts that the CD Committee has discussed in recent meetings including the possibility of focusing funds on housing efforts to try to make significant progress in affordable housing.

Public Hearing Comments:

Jodi Slick (Ecolibrium3): Newly developed target areas for affordable housing were identified because of their high percentage of rental areas. Focus for affordable housing should be on 2, 3, and 4-unit buildings. Infill housing tends to be difficult because of value gaps for financing the new homes.

Emily Edison (SOAR Career Solutions): MN has a high disparity for unemployment for people of color and that should be a focus to improve.

Jessica Peterson (The Hills): NYS, a program of The Hills, provides food, 18,000 meals and snacks to low income youth in the hillside each year. The program has been experiencing an increase in demand each year.

Candi Broeffle (Entrepreneur Fund): The Entrepreneur Fund, through the Growing Neighborhood Businesses program, assists businesses owners in growing their businesses. There has been increased demand in recent years for this type of assistance.

Lynne Snyder (Duluth HRA): The HRA housing rehabilitation program has found that it continues to be cheaper to renovate existing housing stock for affordable housing, rather than building new structures. The HRA has heard the desire for more green space in the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

Jill Keppers (Duluth HRA): The HRA provides a variety of housing services for the wide variety (and changing) needs in Duluth.

Lori Magerl (MACV): MACV provides services to veterans including transitional housing, financial assistance, and job assistance.

Cheryl Larsen (Lake Superior Community Health Center): LSCHC has received funding for the dental program that provides dental services to low income individuals. LSCHC will be following changes to health care at the federal level closely.

Mary Pelofske (Duluth HRA): The HRA provides 1,477 vouchers per month and provides other low income housing in Duluth.

Pam Kramer (Duluth LISC): LISC helps to create neighborhoods of choice and opportunity and remains an interested partner in work to strengthen the community.

VII. Adjourn
Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.