



*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**.*

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City of Duluth  
Community Development Committee  
March 22, 2016 **DRAFT** Meeting Summary  
Room 106A - City Hall

I. Call to Order

Chair Barbara Carr brought the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, in Room 106A of City Hall.

Roll Call

Attending: Debra Branley, Randy Brody, Barbara Carr, Reyna Crow, Harrison Dudley, Hamilton Smith, Cruz Mendoza

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Ben VanTassel, Karen Olesen

II. Opportunity Gap Funding Update

Keri Cavitt, Director of Community Philanthropy at the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation was invited to discuss the Opportunity Gap Initiative funding opportunity. The fund was established to fill gaps in parenting, education, and community with a particular focus on early childhood intervention. The funds made possible from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation in the amount of \$1.5 million to be spent over three years. Fulton noted that Staff will put together a follow up meeting between local foundations and interested individuals who may have traditionally lacked access to funding sometime in the next few weeks.

III. Election of Officers

Carr opened up the election of officers for the positions of Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair. Carr asked for nominations for officers.

Brody expressed a willingness to continue to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. Carr nominated Randy Brody to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. Brody accepted nomination.

Dudley nominated Barbara Carr to serve as Chair. Carr accepted nomination.

Smith expressed an interest and self-nominated himself to serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

**MOTION/Second:** Carr/Crow to approve the nominations of Chair (Barbara Carr), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair (Randy Brody), and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair (Hamilton Smith). Motion passed. **VOTE: (7-0)**

IV. Tenant Landlord Connection discussion recap

Fulton stated he followed-up with Jeff Corey regarding the Tenant Landlord Connection and the items discussed at the February committee meeting. Fulton relayed that One Roof will strive for

more diversity within their organization. The Committee identified several areas of follow-up, which Fulton will discuss with OneRoof and follow up on again at the next meeting.

Mendoza identified the need for the Tenant Landlord Connection to address housing discrimination, especially if it is funded to meet a fair housing objective within the consolidated plan. He discussed the importance of additional tenant advocacy. Carr asked that perhaps the Tenant Landlord Connection is providing one niche and eliminating housing discrimination and providing advocacy could be another effort or separate program. Regarding more diversity within the organization, Crow stated there are several individuals that could help to ensure agencies are more diverse. The committee discussed how these considerations of staff and diversity could be incorporated into the overall community development funding process.

Crow identified the necessity of ADA and accessibility compliance for all agencies to be improved. Without programs that are accessible the most needy people aren't receiving all the services they need; often these are the types of needs that aren't visually apparent. The group discussed the need to hear from participants who believe they weren't accommodated correctly, as well as, the need for training organizations that receive Community Development funds. The group discussed the need for mandatory training, and the need to utilize an outside party to conduct such a training.

Mendoza described the importance of completing the objectives of the 2015 Impediments to Fair Housing Plan and the Human Rights ordinance that is already in place. Olesen discussed the incorporation of that document into the adopted Consolidated Plan. The group discussed different measures on how the committee could focus and fund objectives that meet the fair housing plan. Mendozze discussed the upcoming Human Rights Commission meeting, and noted that these issues would likely also be discussed at that meeting.

V. Needs Outreach

VanTassel described the process that the city has used to identify community and housing needs throughout Duluth; including housing data collection, public hearing, and online forum. VanTassel described the city's current efforts to expand this outreach to engage more groups within the community. Mendoza and Crow volunteered to help with this outreach and to work with members of the community to help direct the process.

VI. Other Business

A. February 23, 2016 Meeting Summary

**MOTION/Second:** Brody/Branley to approve the meeting summary for February 23, 2016. Motion passed. **VOTE: (7-0)**

B. Fulton stated HUD had notified the city of the final 2016 funding amount. The amounts included a decrease of \$19,917 to Community Development Block Grant, a decrease of \$11,491 to HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and an increase of \$658 to the Emergency Solutions Grant Program.

Staff recommended the following adjustments to the previous funding recommendation amounts:

Community Development Block Grant

Reduce 16-HS-01 Housing Resource Connection (HRA/OneRoof) to \$612,566

Reduce 16-HS-04 Energy Services (Ecolibrium3) to \$28,000

Reduce 16-ED-02 Growing Neighborhood Businesses (Entrepreneur Fund) to \$56,000

Reduce 16-PF-02 Homeless Youth Building Improve (Life House) to \$151,000  
Reduce 16-PF-03 Trepanier Hall/Gimaajii Improve (AICHO) to \$148,500  
Reduce 16-AD-01 CDBG Program Administration to \$418,059

HOME Program

Reduce 16-HM-01 TBRA (HRA) to \$110,000  
Reduce 16-HS-01 Housing Resource Connection (HRA/OneRoof) to \$39,965  
Reduce 16-AD-03 HOME Program Administration to \$39,440

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Increase Prevention & Rapid Rehousing Fund to \$70,658

**MOTION/Second:** Crow/Dudley to approve the CDBG funding reductions as recommended by staff. Motion passed. **VOTE: (7-0)**

**MOTION/Second:** Dudley/Smith to approve the HOME and ESG funding amounts as recommended by staff. Motion passed. **VOTE: (6-1) (Nay-Carr)**

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**MOTION/Second:** Brody/Crow to adjourn meeting. Motion passed. **VOTE: (7-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ben VanTassel, Senior Planner