



*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
April 18, 2017 Meeting Summary
City Hall Room 303

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Randy Brody called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Attending: Randy Brody, Hamilton Smith, Cruz Mendoza, Abbey Mlinar, Mark Othus

Absent: Reyna Crow, Debra Branley

Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Karen Olesen, Suzanne Kelley

II. Approval of Meeting Summary: March 21, 2017 Meeting

MOTION/Second: Smith/Mendoza to approve February 28, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion passed. **VOTE: (4-0)**

III. 2017 Community Development Week – April 17th-21st

Adam Fulton let the Committee know they are invited to help celebrate the Community Development Week at the Center for Changing Lives at 3:00, April 20. There will be tour at 3:15 of the project, which is nearing completion of construction. Senator Franken will be speaking at the event. The purpose is to highlight a CDBG and HOME funded project. A press conference will be held afterward.

IV. Resolution of Support FY 2018 pre-commitment for Garfield Square Development

There was a presentation on this project at last month's CD Committee meeting. Adam related the pre-commitment request is for \$200,000, which will show the City's support of the project for the application to Minnesota Housing this summer. Rick Klun was in attendance to answer any questions from the Committee. He related with Center City management, police calls were zero last month, in comparison to 600 the year before they took over. The application for State funding was unsuccessful last year, due to the legislature not passing a bonding bill. At the December debriefing with Minnesota Housing, they were very supportive of the project. The third phase of this effort will be renovate the existing Esmond property into workforce apartments.

MOTION/Second: Othus/Mendoza to approve the pre-commitment of \$200,000 funds for the Garfield Square project. Motion passed. **VOTE: (5-0)**

V. Discuss funding percentage targets

Fulton reviewed the funding targets from 2016. He related that if the Committee wants to make housing a higher priority, the easiest category to reduce would be public facilities. Also, this is a difficult year to predict the City's allocation, as the federal budget for 2018 has not been set. Last meeting, there were three housing options discussed that could be a priority; targeting rehab in specific neighborhood(s), multi-family rental development, and homeless facilities. To have more of an impact, the Committee might want to stay with the same priority for a couple of

years. There was discussion on the Homeless Bill of Rights, which calls for availability of bathrooms and showers. The Mayor's intern has done some research on how this issue is being addressed in other cities, and that information will be brought to the next Committee meeting.

Funding priorities need to be set at the meeting on May 16th, which includes a public hearing on the needs in the community. There will be discussion on potential opportunities for funding for housing and homeless facilities, with more details and statistics. Fulton will talk with CHUM and Joel Kilgour before the May meeting on possible solutions to the homeless facilities effort.

VI. Discuss Community Needs Assessment: Research & Analysis

Fulton asked the members if there were areas of research that would help the Committee in determining the needs in the community. One suggestion was a more defined need for affordable housing. How many units are needed to address the affordable housing shortage? What is the shortage of affordable single family homes as compared to rental units? The Housing Indicator Report may provide answers in this area, and that information can be available for the May meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.