



*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  
May 24, 2016 Meeting Summary  
Harrison Community Center

I. Call to Order

Chair Barbara Carr brought the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at the Harrison Community Center.

Roll Call

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

Absent:

Staff Present: Adam Fulton, Ben VanTassel, Kathy Wilson, Karen Oleson, Suzanne Kelley, Kate Van Daele

II. Approval of March and April Minutes

**MOTION/Second:** Brody/Smith to approve March 22, 2016 and April 26, 2016 Meeting Summaries. Motion passed. **VOTE: (7-0)**

III. Accessibility Training

Fulton stated the ADA training will be July 19, 2016 from 1pm-4pm, location to be determined. Two US Department of Housing and Urban Development will conduct the training. It will cover fair housing and reasonable accommodation issues. Committee members are invited, Community Planning staff will attend, and sub-grantees are required to attend.

Mendoza suggested that PACTV tape the training and Community Planning make it available online. Mendoza also suggested inviting the Human Rights Commission.

IV. Discuss Community Development Program Application Process

Fulton said sometime in late July the FY2017 application will be available. Fulton gave an overview of fiscal sponsorship and directed those interested to take a handout or find the handout on the Community Planning website.

V. Community Needs Forum

An open group discussion took place. Wilson provided questions for the group to discuss:

Affordable Housing

1. What are the barriers to community members finding and keeping suitable, affordable, housing?

- Lack of money (savings and income)
- Background checks
- Criminal records

- Section 8 limitations
    - i. Ex: No efficiency apartment vouchers
  - Short supply of housing
  - Lack of education/understanding for those with disabilities
    - i. Ex: Landlords not wanting to rent to disabled
  - High rental costs compared to lower wages for the area
  - Alternative housing options should be looked at
  - New types of home ownership with more than one owner
  - Supply of homes/apartments that can't be rented due to tax forfeit
  - Less funding than normal/need more partnerships
  - Student Housing
  - 30%-40% of income – no units available
  - Disability income aren't eligible for Land Trust
  - Poor quality rental options
  - Most Problematic Barrier:
    - i. Incarcerated released to homelessness and released to CHUM
    - ii. Lower supply of \$900 and less apartments and housing
    - iii. Too little income
2. What are some solutions to enable community members to better find and keep suitable, affordable housing?
- Use of Section 8 to pay mortgages
  - Increase income
  - Increase supply of rental housing
  - % of units affordable
  - Anti-discrimination policies protecting those released from incarceration
  - Enforce ordinances/resources
  - New tools for County Tax Forfeit
  - Mixed income developments
  - Involve the court system
  - Alternative to land trust program
  - If one solution should be implemented it should be:
    - i. Subsidizing homes, disabilities, fix ups

#### Basic Needs/Economic Self-Sufficiency

1. What are the barriers to community members meeting their basic needs?
- Transportation
  - Walkable housing to workplace
    - i. Ex: By airport
  - Hospital/Healthcare Partnership
    - i. HCMC Model
  - Career Pathways > Community Action Duluth Program
    - i. Career Pathways expansion needs more funding
  - Childcare
    - i. Lack of scholarship/funding provided
    - ii. Lack of options for those with shift work jobs

- Lack of Transportation in Head Start
  - Need more access to food shelters
  - Lack of manufacturing jobs
  - Lack of funding for existing programs
  - Lack of sick time at jobs
    - i. Specifically those who work shift work jobs
  - Most problematic barrier:
    - i. Programs not existing, or don't have capacity to serve all
2. What are some solutions to enable community members to better meet their basic needs?
- Create bike sharing programs to help with transportation issues
  - Grow construction industry
  - Need more planning and cohesion between economic developers, Lake Superior College, and City of Duluth
  - Food shelf available at medical facilities
    - i. Lake Superior Healthcare?
  - Strong business development
  - Career Pathways
  - Volunteer childcare programs
  - Scholarship/sponsorship for children
  - Car sharing
  - Uber
  - More diverse job training for youth
  - Need a plan to bring more jobs in
  - Social Support Systems
  - Collaborate with multiple areas/providers
  - If one solution should be implemented it should be:
    - i. Grow entry level jobs, youth job training programs, teach self-sufficiency

VI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Wilson, Planner I