



Planning & Development Division
Planning & Economic Development Department

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Community Development Committee Meeting Summary

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 5:30 p.m. Room 430
Application Review Session #2

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Steven Wick called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm

Attending: Pat Sterner, Steve Wick, Patrice Critchley-Menor, AC Kirk, David Lewis

Absent: Jasmine Clark, Jen Harris

Staff Present: Suzanne Kelley, Phillis Webb, Hannah Figgins, Sam Smith

2. Approval of Meeting Summaries

a. Motion to Approve September 17th minutes. Note to remove previous committee member from previous minutes **MOTION/Second: Critchley-Menor/Davis Vote (5-0) APPROVED**

3. Overview of FY2025 Application Review and Scoring Process

a. City Staff explained the application review elements and scoring process.

4. City Staff Presentation: Housing

Staff Webb gives an overview of the Homeless staff reports reviewing the 6 applications for this Section.

5. Interviews (3 minutes max).

a. HRA: Duluth Property Rehab Program

HRA stated that their biggest impact is a lack of contractors.

b. One Roof: Community Land Trust Acquisition-Rehab-Resale

Jim Philbin stated that One Roof could do less than 8 units, and the funding amount relates to how many units can be built

c. One Roof: 17 New Construction CLT Homes

Jim stated that for people who purchase a home there is a signed agreement that makes sure people don't make huge profit from the construction.

d. Divine Konnections Inc: DKI Duplexes: Comfort & Joy

Stated that in order to keep the duplex units permanently affordable that it will be in the contracts people sign.

- e. One Roof: Decker II
Stated that the time period for the precommitment application will be next summer.
 - f. Family Rise Together: Westside Market
Stated that there is currently no connection with this application and Northspan. The application will have 2 phases. It will be used as a housing option for LMI people. FRT has a strong connection with SOAR. And they are applying for COC funding to help with this project and working with Greater Minnesota Housing.
6. City Staff Presentation: Public Facilities: Hannah Figgins
Staff Figgins gives an overview of the Public Service staff reports reviewing the 9 applications for this Section.
7. Interviews (each application has an allocated time of no more than 3 minutes for the agency to provide a summary of the program. CD Committee will use this time to ask questions to the agency.)
- a. Lake Superior Community Health Center: Equipment upgrades to improve dental care
There is a huge demand for dental care. And there is a very limited dollars for dental care, this is a unique funding category. They look at all resources, but it is a challenge for dental equipment.
 - b. YWCA Duluth: Windows for Spirit Valley Childcare
Sprit Valley building that has the childcare for 54 children and the 7 units of supportive units of housing. Have identified an entity to acquire the building and programs. The original loan for the building requires 30 years for this housing to be for low-income families, this loan expires in 3032. The current programs and building will close at the end of November. Have invested other public funds, including CDBG funds in this building. This building is ready to be transferred to another organization. Only childcare in the area.
 - c. Second Harvest Northland: Nourish the Northland Capital Campaign
They have received other funds from public organizations, and the CDBG funds are only for the market.
 - d. Center City Housing: Yellow Leaf Crisis Venter Roof proposal
Birch Tree was the previous name, now named Yellow Leaf. Programs are to help people with mental health issues. After the winter 2023, the building roof had issues. Have \$15,000 reserves in the building and worked on a budget.
 - e. Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community: 6th Ave E Corridor Revitalization
Provided a handout and explained the project summary visual and stated there were letters of support in the packet. Explained what is the current 6th avenue project. Reduce the road from 4 to 3. How much of impact will this have to LMI areas- 30% of Hillside do not drive, so they depend on the 6th avenue corridor. This has been a huge barrier for school, social connections, medical. Hillside has a history of redlining. Myers-Wilkins school does not allow kids to walk to school, even if they live a block away due to the danger of crossing 6th.
 - f. Lincoln Park Children and Families Collab: Childcare Rehab
This agency already documents other funding that they receive, so they will also be doing this for the families receiving benefits to insure they qualify as LMI. A consultant identified CDBG funding for this program. These funds will help to secure a space to offer long term license childcare.
 - g. Chester Bowl: Chalet Renovation and Expansion Project
Chester Bowl will document LMI through data from families for other programs. They would be happy for a partial award.

8. City Staff Presentation: Economic Development: Suzanne Kelley
Staff Kelley gives an overview of the Public Service staff reports reviewing the 9 applications for this Section.
9. Interviews (each application has an allocated time of no more than 3 minutes for the agency to provide a summary of the program. CD Committee will use this time to ask questions to the agency.)
 - a. True North Goodwill (SOAR): High-demand, living-wage job training (HLJT)project
Although there was a merge together, SOAR is still an independent program within Goodwill. It is possible that assisting people with disabilities could increase and be a benefit with merging with SOAR. Working with people with high needs and high barriers could create significant challenges. This funding is essential since it has been utilized in the past.
 - b. Family Rise Together: CM Solutions Accelerator
FRT does business development rather than career development (work force). Commercial real estate is too expensive, BIPOC missed out on other federal funding do to many being home businesses. The intake process starts with a navigator, then a 1:1 session, group training, then move them through the program.
 - c. Life House: Futures Program
Talked about the different outcomes with this program. This includes enrollment, FASFA, holding a job, resumes, applying for jobs, hard skill assessments, soft skill assessments, and GRD among other things. They also use the system APRICOT to keep track. One of the barriers is meeting youth where they are at. There has been gaps since Covid. Transportation has become more of a challenge since young people do not pursue license like they used to. They are doing a lot of barrier reduction and soft skills.
 - d. Entrepreneur Fund: Growing Neighborhood Businesses
It is no longer a cohort model and more of a one-on-one model. They focus now on that. Their goal is slightly smaller with 7 businesses. The main concern is getting clients their UEI's.
 - e. Family Freedom Center: START-skilled trades, arts, robotics & Technology
They have been working with a developer to transfer everything from paper to digital to assist with tracking and metrics. The program finds participants by at the center, they have a high population of youth that already visit FFC regularly. The program is training youth on potential careers they would be interested in. This is also based off of alternative income, and investing in businesses. The main challenge they face is space and equipment.
 - f. Northland Foundation: Jump into Child Care
City Staff assisted with this application, there were no additional questions.
 - g. Green New Deal Housing: Green Construction Training
The agency in previous years have been ran by volunteers. They are a one person staff, and they are relying on community partners. They are offering classroom training. They will provide bus passes/gas cards to get people to the classroom. The challenges they face are building the capacity for the agency.
10. CD Application Review/Score Sheet
Chair Wick reviewed the next steps for the score sheets, and the recommendations.
11. October 9 meeting-score sheet review and PRO Housing grant hearing

12. HOME ARP Update – October 22 Review

Staff member Figgins stated to expect the application review. The request of proposal was sent late September.

13. Adjourn (Next meeting, October 09, 2024)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:56 pm

MOTION/Second: Sterner/Davis Vote (5-0) APPROVED