

Economic & Community Development Department
CDBG Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, March 6, 2023 at 5:00 PM
City Hall East Conference Room 1 and on Zoom

ATTENDEES: Chairman Howard Schmelder, Commissioners Tom Hick and Mike Massarelli

ABSENT: Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Dawn Leger, Grants Administrator, Justin Malley, ECD Executive Director,
David Sgro, Housing and Project Director, Sharon Arsego, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: Christine Theborge, St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol, CT (Zoom)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schmelder at 5:00pm
- II. Approval of minutes of the Special Meeting of December 7, 2022
Chairman Schmelder called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 7, 2022. Commissioner Hick made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mike Massarelli. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted into record.
- III. Allow for any public comment on agenda items.
There was no public comment.
- IV. Review applications for CDBG funding for Year 49 and make recommendations for funding, pending allocation of funds by HUD, to the ECD Board for approval.
 - a. Public Service applications
Chairman Schmelder acknowledged the receipt of grant requests that equal more than the actual dollars available. He started the discussion with award suggestions based on the goals in the CDBG Five Year Comprehensive Plan: homelessness, shelter and food. Mr. Schmelder presented his recommendations for funding as a means to start the discussion.

Schmelder's recommendations total \$88,231.00 and there is \$88,231.00 available. Chairman Schmelder looked over the programs, tried to allocate funds to everyone keeping in mind the five-year plan priorities. With Prudence Crandall opening a branch in Bristol, Chairman Schmelder felt that was a positive move to support for the residents.

Commissioner Massarelli noted that his suggestions were similar, and Commissioner Hick agreed. Commissioner Massarelli proposed adjusting the amount for St. Vincent DePaul to \$21,000 to continue their momentum and based on what was awarded the previous year. Discussion about the cut in award money available and best allocation continued. It was

decided to award Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding: \$7,000 and reallocate the \$1,000 to St. Vincent DePaul bringing their total to \$21,000.

b. Public Facilities applications

Chairman Schmelder suggested funding only one project, the Bristol Housing Authority infrastructure work for the Komanetsky renovation project. His suggestion is based on what is needed, and the importance of the work for the large number of people who live there.

Commissioner Massarelli advocated for funding the Carousel Museum based on its location at the gateway to the town where other improvements are taking place.

Discussion continued regarding project timelines and best investment of the funds for the most effective impact. Dr. Dawn Leger emphasized that the reduced grant funding requires awarding it where it will have the most impact, like the elderly housing provided at the Komanetsky property.

Chairman Schmelder called for the motion to be read. Commissioner Hick made and read the motion as follows:

Motion to the recommendations for grant awards as listed, pending funding by HUD, to the ECD Board for approval as follows:

HRA – Case Manager: \$10,000
Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding: \$7,000
Family Resource Center: \$1,000
BristolWORKS!: \$5,231
Salvation Army Bristol Corps: \$10,000
Bristol Boys & Girls Club – Outreach: \$16,000
YMCA New Britain - SACS: \$5,000
Prudence Crandall – Shelter services: \$10,000
United Way Summer Youth Employment: \$3,000
St. Vincent DePaul Homeless Shelter: \$21,000
Bristol Blues: \$0.00

The above grant totals: \$88,231.00 for Public Service.

Bristol Housing Authority – Komanetsky Estates: \$35,199

The above grant totals: \$35,199.00 for Public Facilities.

The city's Residential Rehabilitation Program will be \$305,000; \$275,000 for single family and \$30,000 for multi-family.

These total (including funding for staff and overhead) equals \$643,210 to be approved by the committee for Year 49.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massarelli. Commissioner Hick asked about the ability to move funds for the multi-family home Residential Rehab budget if needed.

Dr. Dawn Leger advised there is, and that so far in this current fiscal year, there has only been one multi-family home project. David Sgro noted a pattern of multi-home applicants not completing the process versus single family home owners who apply.

All were in favor of the motion to accept the grant recommendations with no changes and the motion passed into record.

- V. Motion to adjourn.
Chairman Schmelder request a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Massarelli made th motion which was seconded by Commissioner Hick. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 5:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Arsego
Recording Secretary