



MEETING MINUTES
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 16, 2021 7:00 PM

Housing and Community Development Act Committee

Members Present: Ald. Wilson, Ald. Rue Simmons, Ald. Rainey, H. Rodriguez, D. Su, D. Ohanian

Members Absent: Ald. Braithwaite, Ald. Wynne, and G. Mackey

Presiding Member: Ald. Rainey, Committee Chair

Mental Health Board

Members Present: G. Carpenter, I. Ziaya, and S. Johnson

Members Absent: B. Feiler, R. Orr, D. Cravens, A. Sood

Staff: S. Flax, J. Wingader

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chair Rainey called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. There was not a quorum of the Mental Health Board.

Suspension of the Rules

Members participated electronically or by phone. Ald. Wilson moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Ald. Rue Simmons; the motion was approved 8-0.

Public Input of the Draft 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

There being no comment made, Ald. Rue Simmons moved approval to close the 30-day public comment period for the 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, seconded by Ald. Wilson; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

Vote to Recommend Approval of 2020 CAPER by City Council at March 22, 2021 Meeting

Ald. Wilson recommended the Committee move approval of the 2020 CAPER to City Council at its meeting on March 22, seconded by Ald. Rue Simmons. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed 6-0.

Reallocation of Unexpended FY2020 Community Development Block Grant Funds to 2019 CARES Act Amendment for Use in FY 2021

Ald. Rainey moved approval of the reallocation of unexpended FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant Funds to 2019 CARES Act Amendment for use in FY 2021, seconded by Ald. Rue Simmons. Staff provided additional information including a presentation further describing the rationale for the reallocation. There was discussion

about the allocation process that took place in December; staff reviewed the approved programs and projects and the process for allocating funds to specific Public Services activities. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed 6-0.

Discussion and Vote to Recommend Approval of the 2021 Action Plan and Amended Citizen Participation Plan to City Council

Staff provided a brief summary of actions taken to date, including funds that the Committee allocated to City programs and projects at the December 15, 2020 meeting, and detailed the 2021 final grant awards for CDBG, HOME and ESG that were received from HUD in February. Ald. Wilson moved to approve and recommend approval of the 2021 Action Plan and Amended Citizen Participation Plan to City Council, seconded by Ald. Rue Simmons; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

Update on the Allocation Process for MHB/CDBG Public Services Funds

Staff provided details about the requirements for agencies applying for FY2021 funding. There was discussion about the timeline of the application and allocation process including an estimate of when funds could be released when awarded. Staff further discussed the strategy behind the change which is to provide services to the most at-risk residents who are unable to access services without assistance. Members discussed the potential impact on service availability for Evanston residents not in the targeted population and the impact on non-profit agencies providing services. Staff provided additional information on the proportionate share of funding the City provides to agencies and other sources of revenue for the services agencies provide to residents. There was further discussion about new client intake goals and reporting.

Public Comment

Carlis Sutton spoke about the need for a financial relief program for small landlords and the challenges landlords are experiencing as a result of the pandemic.

HCDA Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2021 and December 15, 2020

Ald. Wilson provided corrections to the December minutes including removing his name as he was absent from the meeting. Ald. Rainey moved to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Ald. Wilson; a roll call vote was taken and both sets of minutes were approved 6-0.

Staff Report

No staff report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, Ald. Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Ald. Rue Simmons; it was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wingader
Senior Grants and Compliance Specialist