MEETING MINUTES

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 23, 2019
7:00 P.M.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, City Council Chambers


Members Absent: Ald. Braithwaite

Presiding Member: Ald. Wynne

Staff: S. Flax

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum
Ald. Wynne declared a quorum of the Housing and Community Development Act Committee and called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2019
Ald. Rainey moved approval of the minutes as presented seconded by Ald. Wilson; the minutes were approved unanimously.

Allocation of Additional FY 2019 CDBG Funds
Ald. Wynne noted that the committee would allocate the additional CDBG funding based on the City’s 2019 grant from HUD, and final amounts of Revolving Loan and Program Income funds received. She asked staff to provide a brief summary of their recommendation. Staff noted that additional Public Services funds were allocated to Youth Job Center, Connections for the Homeless and the YWCA, following the statement of the committee at the allocation meeting in October 2018. In addition, increased funding was recommended for CDBG Administration, Code Enforcement, the Revolving Loan fund, and Public Facilities and Infrastructure projects. Ald. Wilson moved approval of the funding recommendations, Ald. Rainey seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Ald. Rainey noted that she was talking to City library staff about their new Memory Care program for seniors with dementia and found that staff was not aware of CJE’s Senior Day program. Staff suggested that short articles about the different programs that the City funds to address needs in the community could be included in the City’s e-newsletter to expand awareness. Staff will work with Patrick Deignan to develop a schedule for this.

Public Comment
Thomas A. Lydon noted that he did not have any input on housing matters, but has worked in transportation management for many years and was interested in Evanston
transportation issues, including increasing pedestrian safety. Chair Wynne suggested that he attend the Transportation and Parking Committee meeting on April 24.

Staff Reports
Staff noted that the additional allocations would be used to update the City’s 2019 Action Plan to reflect actual grant amounts. The Action Plan would then go to City Council for approval on May 13, 2019, before being submitted to HUD for approval. It is anticipated that grant funds will be released by the end of August.

Ald. Wilson noted that in subsequent meetings, the committee should be updated on the 2020 Census. The Supreme Court had discussed adding a citizenship question to the census that would suppress response. Staff gave a brief update on the work of the 2020 Complete Count committee to identify hard to count areas, the importance of engaging people who have the trust of residents in hard to count groups, and a meeting on April 22 with Census staff. Information on Census jobs would be shared with City staff and non-profits including Youth Job Center, etc.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Glenn Mackey moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ald. Wilson; the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah K. Flax
Housing and Grants Manager