

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
TELECONFERENCE
June 9, 2020
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Marcell Barnett, Lynn Bittel, Vince Chowdhury, Demetra English, Erica Howard, Teri Marquantte, Bill Moran, Hayley Reddish, Jason Schneider and Charlene Wisner-Howard.

Members Absent: Linda Savage
***Excused**

**Late Arrivals/
Early Departures:** Catalina Veilma

Staff Present: Jessica Prosser & Paulette Fulmer

Guests Present: N/A

Chairperson Lynn Bittel called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Bill Moran motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Teri Marquantte seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Teri Marquantte motioned to approve the revised minutes of the May 12, 2020 meeting as presented. Vince Chowdhury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

No public present.

Committee Member Briefings - open

- a. **Jessica Prosser** requested committee member suggestions for topics to be included in future meeting agendas. Notify Jessica or Paulette with your requests.

Communications from Staff

- a. **CD Manager Updates – Jessica Prosser, Manager**
Jessica Prosser presented the following updates to the Committee.
 - **Recap of Council feedback on Housing Strategy and HORNS committee items**

The Housing Strategy was presented to city council in May with staff addressing council's incoming questions. A Community Engagement Strategy will be presented later this Summer. The Homeless Service Request Grant applications will be available early June with an application deadline of June 29, 2020. The RFP review team will evaluate the applications late June to early July. The HORNS Committee briefing, and recommendations will be presented to the Community Housing Development Committee in July. Funding recommendations will go to city council in August and the contracts will be executed in September. The Affordable Housing Gap Financing application will be released early June with the application deadline of June 26, 2020. Review of applications will take place in June & July. The Citizens Advisory Committee will meet the second week of July to review applications and review the committee's recommendations. City council study session will be late July/early August to review the committee's recommendations. Thank you to committee members who are participating in the Affordable Housing & Gap Financing review committees. You'll receive the evaluation criteria and an invitation for a WebEx meeting.

- **Budget process**

There will be a citywide 5% budget cut across the organization for 2021. A sample budget will be presented in July. We received 7 million in COVID relief funds from HUD with 1.4 million ESG funds for energy service grants. \$865,000 CARES funds are to be spent in 2 years. Community Development has doubled in budget. There will be two separate budgets to look at. The review will depend on recommendations on funding to council in August. Community Development has 3 vacant positions to fill with 2-3 positions that have been decided to not be filled. We're approved to hire the Planner, Administrative Support Specialist and Monitoring & Compliance positions. The recruitment process will start up again this week. Community Development was just approved to hire a temporary contract employee to fill the need for an additional Planner position.

Discussion ensued. Staff answered the Committee members questions.

- **COVID response updates – rental assistance, AER loans, and grants, Respite Center and food and supply**

The Rental Assistance Program received 1,300 applications in one week to assist Aurora Residents with April and May rent. The application process is completely electronic. A full review team is currently working on efforts to obtain required documents and processing applications. The Aurora Economic Relief loan and grant program's first round is almost complete, and the second round is almost ready to launch. The applications will be open for one week. A press release will go out on Wednesday, June 10th. The second round utilizing CARES funds from Adams & Arapahoe counties will assist businesses with grants up to \$15,000 to go towards purchasing of PPE, minor construction for re-opening, and towards necessary recovery efforts. The review team for round two will include Community Development, Urban Renewal and Parks & Recreation staff members. The Respite Center is still in operation reaching its peak at 47 individuals with currently assisting 30 individuals. The Food & Supply Assistance program is distributing pantry boxes to the community every Wednesday. Community Development staff members participated alongside many volunteers with the event taking surveys, distributing boxes and loading vehicles. Volunteers are welcome and if interested, please contact the Aurora

Interfaith Group. HUD Secretary Ben Carson will be in town on Friday, June 11th for a visiting tour and press conference to address the recovery need. He will highlight the food and supply program which is to include his assistance with the task of pantry boxing.

Discussion ensued. Staff answered the Committee members' questions.

b. **Loan Write-Offs – Jessica Prosser, Manager**

Jessica Prosser reported that there were no loan write-offs for the month of May 2020.

During the month of May 2020, \$20,712.27 in Program Income was received.

Program	Income	Year to Date Income
HOME	\$13,888.46	\$317,283.15
CDBG	\$6,823.81	\$42,079.05
NSP1	\$0.00	\$0.00
NSP3	\$0.00	\$0.00
AVAILABLE UNCOMMITTED FUNDS FOR NEW PROJECTS (APPROXIMATE):		
HOME	\$1,800,000.00	
CDBG	\$50,000.00	

Discussion ensued. Staff answered the Committee members' questions.

Communications from Committee

Adjournment

- **Marcell Barnett motioned, and Teri Marquantte seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.**

Minutes taken by:

Paulette Fulmer, Intake & Compliance Specialist
Community Development Division

Minutes reviewed by:

Jessica Prosser, Manager, Date
Community Development Division

Minutes approved by:

Date