



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
REVENUE SHARING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Thursday, September 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

MINUTES

Members in attendance:

Horacio Lewis
Michael Gritz
David Robertson
Paddy Wilcox
Robyn Harland
Robert Detwiler

Members Absent:

Carla Grygiel
Mark Doughty
Ted Elder
Michael Keough
Sharon Sedita

Staff Present:

Tom Fruehstorfer, Planner

The committee was called to order at approximately 7:10PM.

Members, as well as staff to the committee Tom Fruehstorfer, began with introductions, as well as a brief discussion about the history of the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the City's Revenue Sharing Program, and the restrictions placed on CDBG funding by the federal government. The program is administered through Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

It was discussed that the previous committee chair had resigned. The committee considered electing a new permanent or temporary chair but decided it would be more prudent to wait until the next meeting to elect the new chair when more members might be present.

The committee began reviewing the applications received to date, and discussed questions, comments, and concerns with certain applications. The committee directed staff person Tom Fruehstorfer to reach out to applicants regarding the specific questions and additional information requested.

The attached table includes the applicants, the amount requested, and a brief description of the proposed project. It also includes a brief summary of the comments from the meeting and the questions asked by the committee. The answers to the questions have been included in the table also.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

24 September 2015 Committee Meeting Notes, Committee Questions, and Follow-up Answers

Applicant	Amount	Brief Description	Comments	Questions	Answers	By
Newark Day Nursery	\$25,000	Economic support through lower child care fees for low income working families allowing working families to have access to high quality early	Awarded \$25,000-\$30,000 from 2011-2015; Provides access regardless of income using sliding pay scale; Daycare with an education	1. Verify that 100% of recipients are residents of City of Newark	Yes - Invoice includes address of every child that receives scholarship money	RD
Newark Parks and Recreation - Dickey	\$6,600	8-week structured recreation program at Dickey Park - free to participants	Promotes health and active lifestyles as well as leadership skills, public safety, and making good Program will be 20 years old	none		
Newark Parks and Recreation - Recreation	\$1,300	Fee assistance for Parks and Recreation programs		2. Verify that all CDBG funds are for Newark residents only	About half of recipients live in the City. While some of the non-residents might be eligible for County funds,	RD
Newark Parks and Recreation - Youth	\$6,900	Youth employment program		none		
Newark Parks and Recreation - Community	\$23,000	Resurfacing of Dickey Park and George Wilson Center Pools	May not be an allowable CDBG expense	3. Is it eligible?	Yes, it is eligible. This would be considered rehabilitation. Maintenance is filling of cracks and	
Newark Senior Center - Meals on Wheels	\$25,000	Provides nutritional meals to homebound seniors	Funded by RS in 2011 - 2015; Most recent fiscal year served 100 individual City of Newark residents; Avg	none		
Newark Senior Center - Early Memory Loss	\$3,300	Purchase refrigerator and induction range	Provides socialization and structure to those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other memory related	none		
Newark Senior Center - Minor Home Repair	\$50,000	Free minor home repair service to seniors (60+)	for low income and 60+ seniors living in City of Newark; 2015 - \$40,000; 2014 - 25,000	none		
Newark Senior Center - Weatherization	\$20,000	Newark Energy Watch Program	Energy audits and energy saving upgrades that pay for themselves within 7 years	none		
Newark Public Works - ADA Ramps	\$60,000	ADA Curb Ramps -- ADA Ramps are an unfunded mandate. CDBG is a typical program for providing funding for ADA ramps. Newark has one of the most progressive ADA inspection programs in the state. Many of the perceived problem ramps are on State roads and not the responsibility of the City of Newark.	Rob thinks the old ramps were put in wrong so why are we paying to fix them; Rob thinks new ramps where they did not exist should not be paid for by CDBG	4. Ask about Main Street ramps	Main street ramps are on State roads and responsibility of the State. Newark has made repairs of particularly bad ramps, but they are responsibility of the State.	TF
				5. When were ADA standards changed?	1991 - detectable warnings required - domes or grooves were allowed. In 2002 standards changed to require domes. There also may have been a change of required slope at some point but the exact time is not clear from our records.	RD
				6. What in ADA standards has changed?	Method required to alert sight impaired - rough surface vs domes	RD
				7. Why are old ramps wrong?	Some installed without domes when domes were not required	RD
				8. Can we complete a standardized for Public Works	Done	HL
				9. What is CFP in budget columns	Capitol Fund Program	PW
				10. Is this maintenance or is this CDBG eligible beautification	This does qualify as beautification and is not maintenance. This is rehabilitation work.	
				11. Is this age restricted?	No. Program is for low-income Newark residents	PW
Habitat for Humanity	\$30,000	Site improvement/Beautification at Independence/Delaware Circle Senior Public Housing Complex and scattered locations	landscaping, sidewalks, steps, trash receptacles, improved building facades, outdoor pavilion, mailboxes, cyclone fences.; 2014 - \$15,000; 2015 - \$35,000			
		Exterior repair of existing buildings including fences and decks				
Food Bank	\$5,500	Mobile Pantry Program - 5 distributions of pre-made meal boxes and fresh produce, meat and dairy items	5 events / 25-30 households at risk of going hungry each; includes 100 lbs of food per family; 2010 - \$2,690	none		

Applicant	Amount	Brief Description	Comments	Questions	Answers	By
Newark Arts Alliance	\$2,250	Scholarships for Camp Imagine	2011-2015 \$1,200-\$2,000; Camp cost set on sliding scale based on family income; Camp has 2 part-time employees and 75 volunteers	none		
Newark Area Welfare Committee	\$14,500	Emergency assistance for rental an utility expenses, food assistance, shoes for children, annual holiday food boxes.	2010-2015 \$9,000-\$14,000; All volunteer association	none		
Delaware Guidance Services	\$5,000	funding to support outpatient mental health treatment services for at-risk	2011-2015 \$5,000 per year	none		
Chimes	\$6,290	cover medical expenses for 22 people living within City limits	2008-2015 \$5,500-\$9,350; Covers copay medical expenses to recipients so they have money for other life activities	none		
Hope Dining Room	\$3,500	cost of meals provided to City of Newark residents 5 days/week	2011-2015 \$3,000 - \$3,500/year; Kingswood Methodist Church on Marrow's road	none		
Newark Symphony Orchestra	\$1,600	Annual free family concert and instrument petting zoo	2011-2015 \$500-\$1,150	none		
Mid Atlantic Ballet	\$5,000	Scholarship for Students on Subsidized Lunch Program	2012-2015 \$1,000-\$1,500; According to budget each scholarship averages \$815	none		
PAWS - Pet Assisted Visitation Volunteer Services	\$8,700	Funding to train PAWS pet therapy teams	2011-2015 \$2,500-\$3,750; Autism and literacy programs	none		
YWCA	\$6,000	Rental and Housing Financial Counseling	We refer Home Buyer Incentive Program and Promoting Owner Occupancy of Home Applicants to YWCA	none		
Newark Bike Project - Youth Empowerment Program	\$10,810	Virtue training and civic engagement with youth through bike maintenance, riding safety rules, and volunteer events	2015 - \$4,000	12. Verify why they want to double funds? Did they only have enough for half the year?	The program was divided into semesters. The old amount covered 1 semester. They wanted to have 2 semesters	HL
Newark Planning - Program Administration	\$65,000		Committee thought the term character might be better than virtue in description of their program. Committee thought this program was lacking direction and focus. Not comfortable giving more money until there is better direction.	none		
Newark Planning - Home Improvement Program	\$60,000			none		
Newark Planning - Facade Improvement Program	\$0			none		
Newark Planning - Home Buyer Incentive Program	\$20,000			none		