

MINUTES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDBGAC)
Tuesday, February 20, 2007

The Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee convened at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Development Conference Room, Kevin Davis presiding.

Committee Members

Present:

Kevin Davis, Chair
Barbara Judkins, Vice Chair
Sunny Ugochukwu
Carol Rooney
Doug Killough
T.J. Gilmore
Mary Scruggs

Committee Members

Absent:

Staff Members

Present:

Jamey Kirby, Grants Coordinator
Andrea Rincón, Grants Specialist

Guests:

The Committee Chairman, Kevin Davis, called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. He welcomed the newest committee member, Mary Scruggs and introductions were made all around. Mrs. Scruggs took the time to visit the office and staff had briefed her on the committee's responsibilities. Mr. Davis asked the committee to review the minutes of the last meeting, Public Hearings on November 29, 2006. There being no corrections, Barbara Judkins made a motion to accept the minutes as written. T. J. Gilmore seconded and the minutes were approved by 6-0. There was not a quorum for the meeting on December 6, 2006. Staff accepted public comments which will be included in the Annual Acton Plan but there are no minutes to approve.

The Committee discussed selection of a new Targeted Reinvestment and Improvement Neighborhood (TRAIN). Jamey Kirby presented a brief overview. The committee can select from four proposed areas which they toured last fall, or could choose to continue with only the two existing neighborhoods. A staff memo listed attributes and potential selection criteria for each. Staff also pointed out that so far, there was greater public input and a request for TRAIN status from the Edna/Charles area. Several residents have begun meetings with the intention of forming a neighborhood committee. Chairman Kevin Davis discussed how street projects can take up considerable funding and thought the selection criteria was useful. T. J. Gilmore suggested that in the future we identify benchmarks to 'de-select' or complete TRAIN areas. He noted that there was not much feedback from McKenzie/Hembry this year. Sunny Ugochukwu remarked on the progress already made there. After some discussion the committee agreed that there are still needs in the existing TRAIN areas.

Mr. Kirby asked the committee if they cared to designate criteria. Mr. Gilmore likes using public input and interest as in indicator of future investment and cooperation from the neighborhood. Doug Killough agreed that the residents would be important partners. All committee members agreed that they do want to expand to a new area but that TRAIN designations should not be 'forever.' Mr. Killough made a motion to recommend selection of the Edna/ Charles area as the next TRAIN (see attachment). Mr. Gilmore seconded the motion. Staff asked if they intended to assign priorities. There was a clear

consensus that the new TRAIN would be first priority for projects followed by McKenzie/Hembry and then College Street. The motion was passed 6-0.

The recommendation will be written into the 2007 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development and will not take effect until after further public hearings and Council action.

The committee discussed the process for proposals and renewals. They do not feel it necessary to have agencies give presentations for the renewal process. With the full application round only once every three years, committee members could take individual tours of agencies in order to stay familiar with them.

Staff reports included handouts of a 'windshield' report showing progress and spending of all the social service agencies for the first quarter. Staff is preparing to do onsite monitoring of agencies. The HOME program has begun construction and the Street Project on Mullins has begun.

Under items of interest, Mr. Kirby recognized that Carol Rooney has abstained in the past from certain discussion and votes regarding funding for CCA projects. Ms. Rooney is a client at CCA receiving housing and social service benefits. Mrs. Rooney acknowledged her relationship as a client as a matter of full public disclosure and to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by T. J. Gilmore with a second by Mary Scruggs. Mr. Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p. m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamey Kirby,
Grants Coordinator

Kevin Davis,
Chairman