

CDBG Council Workshop Minutes FY 2018

Attendance: Honorable Harold Miller, Councilman Tim Connell, Councilman George Ash, Councilman Enzo Fracasso, Councilman Terry Weigel, Rik Rekowski, Jennifer Simms, Danielle Stroud, Craig Howell, Earlean Cook, Jackie Broux, Rod Rosnick, Donna Gialluco, Matt Burskey, Coty Shingleton, Brandon Wilson, Karl Haglard, Rhonda Stubbs, Mark Miller, and Jessica Gumm.

Absent: Travis L. Blosser, Councilman Matthew Provenzano, Councilman Fred Marsh, and Councilman Doug Jackson.

Introductions were made.

Mayor Harold Miller suggested starting at the beginning of the spreadsheet.

Councilman Francasso asked since Casa is located in Follansbee, do they use funds from CDBG to support the Follansbee Area?

Jessica: No, they only get reimbursement for the Weirton Area children and must provide documentation.

Jessica explained why Administration cost went up due to the five-year plan and the AIF that will be due to HUD. No council member present had an issue with administration or fair housing projects.

Councilman George Ash expressed he would like the Library to receive funding for the Grant Resource center. It was explained that the project was ineligible because of HUD rules. Mr. Rekowski expressed how important the program is and how much grant funds it has provided the area. Mr. Ash said he would take it council to provide funding from the general fund.

Councilman Ash expressed that Change Inc has a bigger budget then the City of Weirton so why did they need our money.

Mayor Miller explained that Comfort House struggled before Change Inc picked up the program. They are extremely good program and if it wasn't for Change Inc they would no longer be around. I understand Change Inc gets a lot of money but just like CDBG it has to allocated to certain things.

Council Weigel brought up that City department should come first. All council members present agreed.

Mayor Miller brought up that you can not use all of the CDBG funds to reimburse the General fund and that the General Fund is fully funded.

Jessica mentions the goals that the City must hit in accordance to the five-year plan.

Councilman Weigel questioned why the Parks Board facility passes and the Code enforcement was not recommended for funding.

Jessica answered saying council has not funded the facility passes for a few years now and that the Park Board submitted another application for ADA wheelchair lift which needed funded. As for Code Enforcement, HUD changed the rules where the City would have to prove the redevelopment happening in the area of where Code Enforcement would be funded with CDBG. There would have to be a study done and submitted to HUD. HUD could then tell you if you could fund the project or not. Travis also wanted me to remind everyone that the General fund is fully funding all City Departments. That CDBG is just a reimbursement and no one would lose jobs over City projects not being funded.

Karl reinforced what HUD is trying to do with Code Enforcement.

Coty Singleton defended the facility passes and why they couldn't just do it for free.

The council member present added funds to the facility passes and it will be discussed on Council floor July 9 for a vote.

Council members that attended all agreed they would like to see Code Enforcement receive funds but will need to see what it will take to have the study done. Code Enforcement will not receive funds for FY 2018.

Council member Tim Connell, expressed it was very important to fund the Dunbar Center ADA improvements.

Council members present also expressed that it was important that the agencies receive funding as well.

Please see attached chart of what was decided for CDBG FY 2018. The Annual Action Plan will go before council in July. Changes can be made at that time.

FY 2018 \$414,793	Organization	Description	Eligible- Non Eligible Activity	Amount Requested	Staff Recommendation	Council Recommendation	Notes
Subjected to 20% Cap	General Administration	The administrative costs for general management, oversight, and coordination of the CDBG Program.	Eligible	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	There is a increase in recommendation due to the 5 year plan, analysis of impediments to Fair Housing Choice, CAPER and monitoring coming up.
	Fair Housing/ Human Rights Commission	Funds will go to the promotion Fair Housing in the City of Weirton	Eligible	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	Funding promotes Fair Housing and supports the Human rights Commission.
	Weir H Mary Library	Foundation Center- Network Grant Writing & Research Center Services	Non Eligible	\$2,495.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Provides an education tool for the public and City for economic Grants. The project does not directly benefit Low/Mod Income persons. The project is not eligible under Administration because it is not a cost of directed to administering or planning of a HUD grant.
	Total				\$66,495.00	\$64,000.00	\$64,000.00
Subjected to 15% Cap	A Childs Place Casa	Resources for twenty children of Weirton, WV CASA	Eligible	\$10,113.20	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Helps children in the City through the court system.
	Change Inc DBA Comfort House	Provides forensic interviews and victim assistance.	Eligible	\$7,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	Helps Children in the City with assistance and forensic interviews. The Weirton Police Department also uses this organization frequently.
	Dunbar Recreation Center	Building Insurance	Eligible	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Since recommending the ADA Requirement project, I do not recommend funding this project this year.
	Park Board	Facility Passes	Eligible	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	Since recommending the ADA upgrades, I do not recommend funding this project this year.
	Weirton Christian Center	Transportation Insurance	Eligible	\$5,686.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Helps children have transportation from school to the center to home.
	Weirton Police Department	Community Policing	Eligible	\$25,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00	Increases Patrols in the Low/Mod Areas
	Weirton Transit	Bus passes	Eligible	\$8,640.00	\$8,640.00	\$8,640.00	As a new program, this will not only help low/mod individuals but will also help with economic growth within the City by transporting those individuals to the local businesses. The Weirton Transit will also receive matching funds for the project.
Total				\$68,439.20	\$51,640.00	\$61,640.00	
Not Subjected to Cap	Dunbar Recreation Center	ADA Ramp, Door, and Bathroom	Eligible	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	ADA Requirements for HUD Funding. If this project is not completed the Dunbar Center can not receive CDBG Funds.
	Dunbar Recreation Center	Painting	Non-Eligible	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	I do not recommend this project due to a lead abatement would have to done which would close the center until all the lead was out of the building. This would cost thousands of dollars.
	Code Inspections Department	Property Maintenance	Eligible	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Due to HUD rules, the City would have to do a study to justify the reimbursement of the Code Enforcement. Also, any money generated off of citation would have to go back into the CDBG funds.
	Public Works	Paving for eligible (low/moderate) CDBG streets	Eligible	\$250,000.00	\$249,153.00	\$239,153.00	Eligible street
	Park Board	ADA Wheel Chair Lift Replacement	Eligible	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	ADA Upgrade
	Park Board	ADA Steps Replacement	Non Eligible	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	ADA Upgrade: The steps are not an ADA compliant element. Since this does not have a Low/Mod Income presumed benefit, income surveys would be necessary. Additionally, surveys would be necessary to also determine how many pool attendees reside in the City of Weirton.
Total				\$359,500.00	\$299,153.00	\$289,153.00	
Grand Total				\$434,635.00	\$414,793.00	\$414,793.00	