



City of Fort Pierce, Florida
Communitywide Council Advisory Board Meeting
February 10, 2016

MINUTES

Ms. Irene Szedlmayer called the Communitywide Council meeting to order at approximately 6:10pm.

Members Present: Irene Szedlmayer, Ellen Mancini, Al Maige, Edward Cox, Kevin Griffin, Gwendolyn Taylor

Members Absent: None

Staff in Attendance: Libby Woodruff, Urban Redevelopment Manager

Visitors: (The meeting 'Sign In' sheet was not available following the February 10 meeting, making it impossible to list the names of all guests who attended the meeting.)

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ed Cox made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2016 meeting; seconded by Mr. Maige;

Mr. Griffin stated that the minutes did not reflect the meeting. Ms. Szedlmayer requested he identify specifics. Ms. Szedlmayer stated that Ms. Woodruff did a good job in diplomating the rigorous discussion that took place at the last meeting, and stated that the minutes are not intended to be word for word. Mr. Cox stated that any minutes recorded can be summarized.

Mr. Griffin stated that there was a motion made at the last meeting for the City Commission to send a certified letter to recipients of the commercial façade grants that had not been expended – and that it was he who made the motion; not Ms. Szedlmayer. After discussion, Mr. Griffin withdrew his objection to the approval of the minutes; **motion to approve carried**. Mr. Griffin opposed.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(The meeting 'Sign In' sheet was not available following the February 10 meeting, making it impossible to list the names of all of the guests who attended the meeting.)

Michael McCloud - stated that he came to the meeting after seeing the Agenda promoting the PowerPoint presentation that will be given at the meeting on the 2016-2020 5-Year Consolidated Plan.

Cathy (could not understand her last name from the recording) – interested in finding out more about the Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Griffin explained the CDBG program to Ms. Cathy.

Ken Taylor – Asked that when we pick out a place or neighborhood in the City where the CDBG money is going, how many times this neighborhood can get the money. Ms. Szedlmayer stated that low to modern income people or areas qualify for funding. Mr. Taylor asked who oversees these people to make sure the money they receive is spent

correctly. Ms. Woodruff stated that CDBG funds primarily goes for projects and programs, not to people.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Meeting – PowerPoint Presentation and Survey for the Creation of the 2016-2020 5-Year Consolidated Plan

The PowerPoint hardware was unavailable. Ms. Woodruff provided handouts of the PowerPoint slides to the attendees and provided an overview of the creation of the 2016-2020 5-Year Consolidated Plan and first year Action Plan. Communitywide Council members and visitors asked questions throughout the presentation pertaining to the Consolidated Plan that were answered by Ms. Woodruff.

Following the presentation, Ms. Woodruff provided Community Surveys for the Council and visitors. Discussion followed from CWC members. Ms. Woodruff stated that she would contact FPUA to promote the Community Survey. Ms. Szedlmayer suggested that the Council could create an agenda item to discuss next year's Community Survey. Mr. Cox suggested that any changes the Council would like to make to the survey should be submitted for consideration. A citizen requested copies of the survey to distribute. Ms. Woodruff asked for the gentleman's contact information and stated that she would contact him with copies of the survey.

Mr. Griffin made a motion that this survey not be used this year that a new survey be developed that is not as lengthy and long and confusing to people; No second was received; motion failed.

B. Review and Discussion of the 2015-2016 Public Service Grant Applications

Ms. Woodruff provided the Communitywide Council members with copies of all of the Public Service Grant applications that were submitted for program year 2015-2016. She also provided score sheets for each application and an overview of the scoring process. Council members signed Conflict of Interest forms. The Council discussed different funding scenarios; however, no motion was made.

C. Neighborhood Infrastructure, Sanitary Sewers, Curbs, Sidewalks, and Playground Equipment for 5 Year and 1 Year Plans (Mr. Kevin Griffin)

Mr. Griffin stated that he thinks it should be a vote expressing the need for infrastructure, sanitary sewers, curbs, sidewalks and playground equipment. Mr. Maige questioned whether the City also needed improved street lighting. Ms. Szedlmayer agreed that these are issues and that all neighborhoods should have sidewalks. She stated that perhaps CDBG funds could be used as a match or to leverage other money. After lengthy discussion, Ms. Szedlmayer stated that she agrees that the sanitary sewer issue in the City is indeed an issue. Mr. Cox agreed with Mr. Griffin that sanitary sewers are important and encouraged Mr. Griffin to assist with getting people to complete the surveys regarding their need for sanitary sewers and also come to the City Commission to speak on behalf of this issue.

After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Szedlmayer stated that the Council would move on to the next agenda items.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Currently-funded CDBG Projects

B. Update:

1. Citizens served through 2014-2015 Public Service Grants
2. Code Enforcement – Homes inspected in Target Area – 2014-2015

Ms. Woodruff stated that HUD's online system has been down for two days and she was unable to access this information and would try to have it for the next meeting.

C. Communitywide Council ByLaws

Ms. Szedlmayer requested Ms. Woodruff look for a date for the ByLaws. Mr. Griffin asked that this be tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Szedlmayer stated that the discussion of the ByLaws would be on next month's agenda and would be discussed, time permitting.

Mr. Cox made a motion that prior next year's Public Service grants, that the Communitywide Council receive a presentation by the Fort Pierce Law Enforcement, pointing out Law Enforcement needs, so the Council can take this under consideration prior to scoring the Public Service grant applications; seconded by Mr. Maige; after discussion, **motion carried**.

Mr. Griffin made a motion to suspend the Communitywide Council ByLaws until the Communitywide Council meets to discuss the Bylaws; no second was received; motion failed.

5. COMMITTEE AND STAFF DISCUSSION

The Council discussed various issues related to previous year's CDBG-funded projects.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Maige made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Cox; meeting adjourned. Missing Sign In Sheet listed time meeting was adjourned.