

**City of Hollywood
Community Development Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Hollywood, Florida, held a Community Development Advisory Board Meeting on November 13, 2019 at City Hall, 2600 Hollywood Blvd., Room 219, Hollywood, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Marty Shuham, at 6:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Paola Adams
Mitch Anton
Audrey Dallaire
Phil de Souza
Joann Fullington Reese
Rochelle Lessner
Siobhan McLaughlin
Marty Shuham
Milana Walter

Absent:

James DeMiles (resigned)
Don Weimer

STAFF:

Donna Biederman, Staff Liaison
Clay Milan, Community Development Manager
Anthony Grisby, Community Development Program Administrator
Renee Richards, Grants and Special Projects Manager, Parks and Recreation and Cultural Arts

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Commissioner Blattner
Commissioner Biederman
Commissioner Callari
Commissioner Sherwood

PUBLIC:

George Robert	Diana "Topacio" Marrero
David Dweck	Carlos Naranja
Marie Woodson	

PUBLIC (ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES):

Cresha Reid, South Florida Institute on Aging	Lisa Durbin, Community Enhancement Collaboration
Nadine McCrea, Community Enhancement Collaboration	Rose Novotny, American Red Cross
Steve Werthman, Hope South Florida	Cathy McCarthy, Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation
Dionne Myers, Women in Distress	

3) New Business:

Public Hearing: Citizen Needs Assessment

Mr. Grisby welcomed the public to the meeting and presented an overview of the City's use of CDBG and HOME federal funding and eligible uses of funds to be considered.

Mr. Shuham asked if there were any speakers from the public.

Ms. Biederman handed him the speaker cards.

George Robert's comments: Mr. Robert wanted to thank the board for supporting the veterans of the Broward County area. He spoke of the services provided by the VFW Post 8195.

Diana Marrero's comments: Ms. Marrero advised that she is the chair of the African American Advisory Council (AAAC) and is entering into the record needs identified by the AAAC. They believe critical needs are: Homebuyer and homeownership education, housing affordability among very low income renters, social services (mental health), trauma informed care services, more school counselors, social and emotional learning in our public schools, emergency care services such as utilities subsidies, public facilities and infrastructure (more lighting)- Washington Park on 56th Ave. from Pembroke Rd. to Washington St., on 52nd Ave. from Pembroke Rd. to Washington St. and in Liberia on 22nd Ave. from Hope St. to Charleston St. and in West Hollywood on 72nd Ave. from Hollywood Blvd. to Johnson St., employment services such as job recruitment, life skills, and entrepreneurial programs.

David Dweck's comments: Mr. Dweck said that he resides in Beverly Park and serves as the Vice Chair of the Hollywood Housing Authority. He wanted to commend the board for their identified priorities. He said that the Housing Authority board would like to be part of the CDAB's effort to address affordable housing concerns. He said that because of the older housing stock, acquisitions are important. In closing he said the identified priorities are great and it is not about starting new programs, it is about keeping what you have and putting more into it.

Cresha Reid's (South Florida Institute on Aging) comments: Ms. Reid said that she appreciated the board visiting Driftwood Elementary School to witness the benefits of the Foster Grandparent Program. She highlighted the benefits of older individuals and their work with children.

Lisa Durbin's (Community Enhancement Collaboration) comments: She encouraged the board to keep CEC in mind for their Feeding Seniors Program for future allocations. She can't stress enough the amount of seniors who are on a fixed income and can barely afford housing and food.

Nadine McCrea's (Community Enhancement Collaboration) comments: Her concern is seniors. Many seniors are homebound and some are raising their grandchildren. They want them to eat healthy. She wanted to thank the board for their support. She thanked City elected officials and staff.

Rose Novotny's (American Red Cross) comments: Ms. Novotny wanted to bring attention to a program that saves lives. The American Red Cross (ARC) is installing fire alarms in low-income areas. In the past three years, ARC has responded to 84 house fires, dealt with 233 individuals and gave direct financial assistance in the amount of \$52,637.00 in Hollywood. They educate school children regarding fires and prevention. ACS has saved 642 lives since the program's inception and she hopes the board will support the project.

Steve Werthman's (Hope South Florida- HSF) comments: Mr. Werthman serves as the Chief Operating Officer for Hope South Florida and is a long-time resident of Hollywood. He stated that Hope South Florida provides housing and services for homeless families and veterans in Broward County. He also serves as the City's liaison to the Broward County's Homeless Continuum of Care Advisory Board. They have several partners that provide emergency and transitional shelters as well as other services to benefit homeless persons. He advised that he was speaking today on behalf of using Home funds and other funds to support Rapid Rehousing and Home First models. HSF has operated the Hollywood Home Program, as a partner with the city since 2011 and an amended agreement since 2014. Homeless families are referred by Broward Outreach Center, City staff and other providers. They provide HUD Home Tenant Based Rental Assistance for apartments that the families choose, in Hollywood. They also provide case management and employment services, funded in part by CDBG funds and the United Way Community Fund of Broward. They also collaborate with another City CDBG-funded agency, Second Chance Society. Since 2014, 37 families were housed and 91% of the families have increased or maintained employment and 81% have successfully remained housed. Each year, HSF families have shared their compelling stories with the City Commission during Community Development Week. He urges the board to continue the funds for this successful strategy. He mentioned that he also serves as the Vice President of the board of South Florida Community Land Trusts. Community Land Trusts are an innovative model to produce and preserve affordable housing in perpetuity and he urges the board to consider the Community Land Trust Model in future planning. Any strategies which expand affordable housing are most welcomed in this distressed housing market.

Carlos Naranja's comments: Mr. Naranja said that he is a 20 plus year resident. He mentioned the Participatory Budgeting Model. He said that the Participatory Budget Model empowers people to decide together how to spend public money and the process helps elected officials by deepening democracy and makes public budgets more equitable and effective. It speaks to communities itself and the allocation of funds. Cities use this model, including New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Boston. The important thing about this model is that it encourages community participation.

Cathy McCarthy's (Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation) comments: Ms. McCarthy is the Executive Director for Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation. They have partnered with the City since 2003 and operate their after-school programs in four of the City's community centers. They serve elementary students from k-5th grade and teach reading, math, science and social skills. They are developing a partnership with the City's police department with Big Brothers Big Sisters to have police officers mentor the students. She mentioned a statistic about children who do not read at grade level by the end of third grade are 83% less-likely to graduate high school and of those 83%, 77% end up incarcerated by the age of

21. She wanted to thank the board for supporting their program with the funds and encouraged future support. She welcomed the board to visit their programs.

Marie Woodson's comments: Ms. Woodson said that she is a 26-year resident of the City of Hollywood and a candidate for State House District 101. She is here to speak on behalf of the State Sadowski funds, which are funds to address affordable housing. She encourages the board to contact our state officials to stop raiding the funds. The affordable housing crisis is real and there is an extreme burden on families. She once again encouraged the City to contact our State officials to preserve the Sadowski funds.

Dionne Myers' (Women in Distress) comments: Ms. Myers thanked the board and City for their support of Women in Distress. The funds have gone a long way in assisting individuals trying to survive domestic violence to transition into safer housing and safe situations. They offer emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis, advocacy and support, counseling, economic empowerment and legal assistance to help residents of Hollywood to accomplish their goals.

Ms. McCrea wanted to thank the City Commissioners, Helen Chervin, Shirley Stealey, Linda Anderson, the Hollywood Women's Club, and Donna Biederman for helping at their annual Thanksgiving Feast for the community.

Mr. Shuham thanked the members of the community for being part of the process. He said that the CDAB considers the input from the public and appreciates their time. He then closed the public hearing.

***Note: Written comments, summarized as follows, were submitted to the Community Development Advisory Board via social media:*

Kenny Miller's comments: #1 Proper storm water drainage and sidewalk repair in Driftwood. #2 The Oak trees on 72nd Ave between Sheridan and Davie Road Ext. should remain un-touched. Do not dare cut them down claiming its necessary for other work.

5) Member Comments:

Mr. Anton thanked the public and spoke about the services that various non-profit organizations provide our residents. He said we don't have enough funds to spread around and wishes there was more. He said that the decisions made about funding recommendations are not taken lightly. There are several discussions before the final recommendations are made. He thanked everyone for their service. He said he really appreciated going on the site visits to see the programs in action. He said thank you to everyone who came out to the meeting and encouraged them to spread the word so others may share their ideas.

Mr. Shuham asked if any other member wanted to speak. No others responded.

6) Staff Comments:

Ms. Biederman mentioned for the record that board members Paola Adams, Phil de Souza and Joann Fullington-Reese were present.

7) Adjournment:

***Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. was made by Mitch Anton and seconded by Milana Walter. Motion carried unanimously. ***