

**City of Hollywood
Community Development Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2020**

The Community Development Advisory Board Meeting will be conducting a Virtual Advisory Board Meeting at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 using Communications Media Technology (“CMT”). Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-69 pertaining to conducting local government meetings while under the public health emergency related to the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). In accordance with this order and due to a prohibition on public access to City Hall because of the risk to public health, the City will be holding the meeting virtually.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Hollywood, Florida, held a virtual Community Development Advisory Board Meeting on October 14, 2020 via WebEx. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Marty Shuham, at 6:35 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Phil de Souza
Kelly Edwards
Joann Fullington Reese
Ana Kairis
Jennifer Luciani
Siobhan McLaughlin
David Rosa
Marty Shuham
Milana Walter
Amber Yeisley

Absent:

STAFF:

Donna Biederman, Staff Liaison
Anthony Grisby, Community Development Manager

PUBLIC:

3. New Business:

- **Community Development Advisory Board Elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary**

Mr. Shuham explained that elections are held every year for the board in October. He further explained that he was stepping down as chair because he is a firm believer in community boards need to have changes in leadership in order to have new thoughts and new perspectives.

Mr. Shuham opened the floor to the board for nominations.

***A Motion was made by Ms. McLaughlin to nominate Phil De Souza for Chair of the CDAB. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walter. Nominations were closed. Motion passed unanimously. ***

***A Motion was made by Mr. De Souza to nominate Siobhan McLaughlin for Vice Chair of the CDAB. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walter. Nominations were closed. Motion passed unanimously. ***

***A Motion was made by Mr. De Souza to nominate Joann Fullington Reese for Secretary of the CDAB. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walter. Nominations were closed. Motion passed unanimously. ***

➤ **CDBG-CV1 – Status of activities**

- Case Management HOPE South Fl.
- LES Food Pantry
- CEC Food Pantry
- Micro-Enterprise Assistance

Mr. Shuham turned the meeting over to Mr. Grisby for a status of activities.

Mr. Grisby reviewed the allocations of the CDBG-CV1, Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus 1.

Mr. Grisby spoke about the Hope South Florida (HSF) and their allocation for Case Management. The intention of that allocation was to serve as an administrative source for those receiving emergency assistance to transfer them to long-term assistance, as well as job sourcing to get them back on their feet. HSF is also assisting with the rental assistance program. The allocation is working as it was intended.

Mr. Grisby went on to explain about the food pantry allocations. LES and CEC were existing food pantries in the Hollywood area prior to the pandemic. Both organizations have increased their food distribution and the allocation is working as it was intended.

Mr. Grisby the last allocation was for Micro-Enterprise Assistance. Within the week, they will be issuing the funds to the businesses that have applied the first round of assistance; which will be quickly followed by a larger second round.

➤ **Rental, Mortgage and Utility Assistance**

- Broward County Coronavirus Relief Funds
- FHFC Coronavirus Relief Funds

Mr. Grisby went on to explain that simultaneously with the CDBG-CV1 allocations, SHIP funds were utilized to provide rental and utility assistance for residents. He further explained the tedious undertaking it was to get through the applications and get the documents necessary to provide the assistance. He

congratulated Ms. Biederman, Ms. Lawson and the HSF staff members for their efforts.

Mr. Grisby went on to deliver news regarding the allocation of money that would be available for rental, mortgage, and utility assistance. The allocation of funds is much larger than expected, however, the deadline is still the same, December 10, 2020. This larger allocation would mean that the department would be expecting to process 600 applications in the next few weeks.

➤ **CDBG –CV3 allocation, eligible activities, and outreach**

Mr. Grisby spoke about the newest funding, CDBG-CV3, for \$1.125M, that will be needed to be spent by August, 2021. The mission of these funds is to prepare, prevent, and/or respond to the Coronavirus. A plan to expend these funds needs to be put in action sooner rather than later.

Mr. Grisby referred to that last meeting where the topic of homelessness and rehousing was discussed at length. Mr. Grisby said that HSF was already working with Broward Outreach to rehouse the homeless into stable housing. Mr. Grisby said that he reached out to Broward Outreach about other programs that funding would be needed with their organization. Right now, they are at 60% capacity because of the virus. The suggestions for assistance to increase capacity and what is necessary for that to happen. As of this meeting, Mr. Grisby has not received a reply.

Mr. Grisby reach out to the Broward School Board regarding a topic from the last meeting made by Ms. McLaughlin about getting distance learning students access to WiFi. Per the school board, they have a funding source that gives any distance learning student access to a hot spot. Therefore, this would be a duplication of benefits. However, the Broward School Board was asked if they could come up with ideas where they could utilize funding for the schools within the City of Hollywood. As of this meeting, they have not replied.

Mr. Grisby said that they have reached out to Memorial Healthcare to discuss programs that could be worked on jointly in an effort to prevent and respond to the virus. Also other non-profits that could provide services for the preparation, prevention, and/or the response of the Coronavirus.

Mr. Grisby further explained that since this funding does not have an immediate deadline, that the board will directly be in the discussion of taking any of these programs to the Commission for approval and implementation.

Mr. Grisby concluded with an invitation for questions.

Ms. McLaughlin was pleased that hot spots were being researched. She inquired about a possible program for buying families the technology, laptops, computers or tablets, to assist with the distance learning of children.

Ms. McLaughlin further commented on a possible program for respite care of those working or caring for the elderly.

Mr. Shuham asked about the current allocation of funds that need to be spent by December 2020, would this required additional applicants or is this for current applicants.

Mr. Grisby responded that it would be both. There were applicants on the SHIP waiting list that they are processing with the anticipation of additional funding. Also, Ms. Biederman sent out to the board a copy of the media blast that will have links to the application that will be live on the 19th of October 2020. In addition, there are inserts in water bills, there will be a flag on the City's webpage, a Facebook and Twitter post, and a CodeRed paragraph to get the work out to as many applicants as possible.

Mr. De Souza asked if the media posts were like a sponsored advertisement or was it to a page that someone needed to follow.

Mr. Grisby said that it is to a page that someone would need to follow.

Mr. Shuham inquired if notifications of the program have been sent to civic associations and the faith-based communities, i.e. churches and synagogues.

Mr. Grisby said that he knew notifications had been to the civic associations. He thought it a good idea to inform the faith-based communities and would look into having that done.

Ms. McLaughlin inquired about putting up large signs at community centers, paid advertisements in the newspaper, or having our non-profits distribute the information.

Ms. McLaughlin further asked about the qualifications they were looking for in hiring temporary employees. Would the city be using an agency? Could the City utilize the grantees?

Mr. Grisby thanked Ms. Laughlin for reminding him of the fact that in each of the contracts with the non-profit agencies there is a clause for them to distribute information on behalf of the city to their clients.

Mr. Grisby answered the question regarding the temporary employees and how the City has contracts with two employment agencies. He did have thoughts of using volunteers from the grantees. Agencies typically hire people that are looking for permanent employment. These people, who are paid, have a higher tolerance to work with the applicants who are under great stress than a volunteer.

Ms. Luciani commented to Mr. Grisby about reaching out to Memorial regarding their needs in the mental health areas. Also, the Counsel for the Aging regarding

the respite care of the caretakers. As well as Women in Distress for their needs with mental health needs.

Mr. Grisby agreed there is a definite connection with the pandemic and mental health care. And there is a possibility that Women in Distress could use more funding to assist more people that are affected by the pandemic and the rise the domestic violence.

Mr. Rosa asked about funding to programs that would specific to the youth of the Cty that dealing with mental health issues.

Mr. Grisby said that they have not funded any programs aimed directly at the youth. Funding can be provided these types of programs if it can be tied back to the pandemic.

Mr. Grisby explained that they are hoping to reach out the agencies that can utilize additional funding and have them provide ideas on how these specific funds for the use in COVID relief.

Mr. Shuham mentioned the PAL agency as a possible contact for youth assistance.

Ms. Yeisley asked about feeding the elderly and delivering food directly to shut-ins.

Mr. Grisby mentioned that his supervisor is looking into using Sun Shuttle for food delivery. He also said that they could also look into additional funding for the current food pantries to make these deliveries themselves.

Mr. Rosa said that CEC would welcome additional funding to add delivery service to their current services.

Mr. Grisby asked Mr. Rosa if CEC would like to receive the additional funds directly or if they would like the City to contact a source on their behalf for the delivery service.

Mr. Rosa said it would be more plausible if they received the funds directly.

Ms. McLaughlin had been out at CEC to volunteer. There were a volunteers available and maybe if funding as given to underwrite car expenses for volunteers to deliver food.

Mr. Rosa commented that in October, they have upped the number of deliveries that needed to be made. Therefore additional funding for adding to delivering food would be greatly welcomed.

Ms. Biederman added to the promotion of the rental assistance program. She said that she has sent information to all the landlords where they have assisted their tenants in the past giving them the information to distribute.

Mr. Grisby added that the rental assistance program information is also being sent out to the landlord that have a City business tax number for distribution.

Ms. Luciani spoke about a post she had seen for LES and their need for funding a new van and could these funds be used for that purpose.

Mr. Grisby said that yes, it could be, however, LES already had a van. If they approached CEC with offers of assistance for delivery options, they would also reach out to LES with the same offer.

4. Old Business:

Mr. Grisby spoke about attending a Corridor Workshop and he will be approaching the board about funding that was deemed ILA funds. They deemed it ILA because it was money that was returned from the county from the CRA that can be used for affordable housing. That has not been moving as fast as they would like, mainly due to the virus. One idea to use this funding is to acquire problem properties along significant corridors within the City to repair and resell to private market or repair and resell to non-profits for affordable housing. Another option is assembling lots. The City is approached by developers that are applying for low-income housing tax credits. The parameters that these developers have to fulfill includes a contribution to the city. The ideas is to use ILA funds to assist with the City contribution as well as possibly purchasing additional lots to make a bigger project.

5. Member Comments:

No member comments.

6. Staff Comments:

Mr. Grisby spoke about the great pleasure it was to work with Mr. Shuham as the board Chair.

Ms. Biederman said that Mr. Shuham was a great Chair and she enjoyed working with him in that capacity.

7. Adjournment:

***A motion was made by Phil de Souza to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM and was seconded by Amber Yeisley. The motion passed unanimously. ***