



1015 Cultural Park Blvd.
Cape Coral, FL

AGENDA
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD
FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

March 13, 2019

5:30 PM

**Conference Room
220A**

- 1. Call to Order**
 - A. Chair Small
 - 2. Roll Call:**
 - A. Chevalier, Renshaw, Salome', Small and Smith
 - 3. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Approval of Minutes - May 16, 2018 meeting
 - 4. Business**
 - A. Overview of PY 2017-2018 Accomplishments
 - B. Community Needs for PY 2019-2020 (includes Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for 2019 - 2024)
 - C. PY 2019 -2020 Schedule
 - 5. Public Input: A maximum of 3 minutes per individual is set for input of citizens.**
 - 6. Other Business**
 - 7. Date and Time of Next Meeting**
 - A. Wednesday May 15, 2019 regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Room 220A
 - 8. Adjourn**
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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section of 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the Office of the City Clerk at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. If hearing impaired, telephone the Florida Relay Service Numbers, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (v) for assistance.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board/Commission/Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| Item Number: | 1.A. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Call to Order |

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Chair Small

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Item Number: | 2.A. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Roll Call: |

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Chevalier, Renshaw, Salome', Small and Smith

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Item Number: 3.A.
Meeting Date: 3/13/2019
Item Type: Approval of Minutes

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Approval of Minutes - May 16, 2018 meeting

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

| Description | Type |
|--|-----------------|
| □ Approval of Minutes - May 16, 2018 meeting | Backup Material |

**MINUTES FROM THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)**

WEDNESDAY, MAY16, 2018

CONFERENCE ROOM 220-A

5:30 P.M.

Chair Small called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Chevalier, Renshaw, Small, and Smith were present.
Salome' was excused.

ALSO PRESENT: Millie Babic, Senior Planner
Amy Yearsley, Housing Coordinator
Dave Stokes, Council Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Board for Community Development Block Grant of March 14, 2017, were presented for approval.

Board Member Renshaw moved, seconded by Board Member Smith to approve the minutes as presented. Voice Poll: All "ayes." Motion carried.

BUSINESS

Chair Small stated he would proceed with the order on the CDBG Allocation spreadsheet that had been provided.

**Applicant Presentations
Staff Funding Recommendations
Citizens' Advisory Board Final Funding Recommendations**

- Jennifer Benton, Abuse Counseling and Treatment, explained this is a very important shelter for domestic violence victims, sexual violence, and their children. Last year they housed 160 individuals and provided free food, funding, personal care items, and individual and group counseling. Also, transportation is provided. We help victims get a GED, and provide tutoring for the children.

Chair Small asked if there is any other agency that target the same needs.

Ms. Benton stated this is the only organization that provides these types of needs.

Chair Small asked if this is the only funding their organization receives.

Ms. Benton stated the organization receives funding from United Way, Lee County and Fort Myers.

- Julie Ferguson, Cape Coral Caring Center, shared information about the organization's emergency food pantry. They have served the Community for 27 years and been a part of CDBG for many years. Last year we helped people when they experienced serious illness or sudden job loss. They provide emergency food which consists of grocery bags full of food. They are partnering with Goodwill to provide credit counseling, and they are going to share their new building with Goodwill. She stated they help with special dietary needs. There were no questions from the Board.
- Kitty Sayers, Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Mini Bus Program, stated they provide rides for very low income. The City has been doing this for 30 years. The cost is six dollars each way. Private transit is not affordable. There is nothing available in the North Cape. This is critical for people to be independent. You really do not know how important it is until you need this type of service. The paratransit program that we do is a door to door service. We take people from their homes and directly take them to a doctor's appointment, grocery store, financial institutions, and senior centers, wherever they need to go. It is generally for people who have no means of transit, the elderly and disabled.

Chair Small asked if the buses are owned by the City.

Ms. Sayers responded in the affirmative.

- Mark Cagle, Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Child Care Services, stated the grant goes towards our after-school program. There are 147 children in the program, they focus on education and fitness. This is a safe place for our children to be until the parents get home from work. This provides 35 families to get 50% off the tuition.

Chair Small asked what percentage of the total budget is used.

Mr. Cagle stated approximately 3 percent.

- Jamie Campbell, Community Cooperative, Social Services, stated we are located in Fort Myers Beach and Cape Coral. This year we helped clients with utilities and electric, we do have a cap of \$350. We have served 60 households. This is for low income families. The need for single parent families has increased. We help with bus passes, and food from the food pantry. Also, we provide a case coach for the school age children.
- Member Smith asked how long have you had a cap of \$350? She asked with the utility cost continuing to grow do you see a need for more funding? And do you follow up with the families that you have given assistance.

Ms. Campbell responded we try to keep the cap at \$350, to help as many families as possible. We partner with United Way and they continue to work with the families.

- Dianna Druding, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, stated we have several programs that we run. We send individuals into the school to work with the children. We have many people that do not know how to speak English. We teach them how to improve their reading skills. Also, we have a free phone program. We help people with other disabilities. They are partnered with Goodwill. We provide interpreting services to help them get jobs. Some people have mild to severe hearing loss, others may have complete hearing loss. We do partner with United Way and use them as a referral. CDBG funds 5% of our Budget. There were no questions from the Board.
- Steve Nemazie, Dr. Piper Center for Social Services, he stated they provided services here in Cape Coral and they have been able to help 171 seniors. This has allowed us to exceed our goal. Transportation is a major issue for seniors to allow them to stay in their own homes.

Chair Small asked if they can dove tail with the Mini Bus?

Mr. Nemazie responded we all work together to provide the needs for the Community and partner with the nonprofit organizations.

- Dwight Powell, Goodwill Industries of SWFL, (Job Link), reviewed services that CDBG has funded. They are partners with United Way. We assist families with applications for food stamps. We are going to employ the mobile ship more here in Cape Coral to use it as a mobile classroom for training for employment. There were no questions from the Board.
- Kelly Jahn, United Cerebral Palsy/Sunrise, explained that the money they get from CDBG was for their daytime program for people with cerebral palsy, spina bifida, and autism. (ADT) stands for Adult Day Training centers. They provide training for job skills and social skills. The majority live in group homes. CDBG provides the funds needed for transportation. There were no questions from the Board.

2018-2019 Annual Action Plan

Amy Yearsley stated for the new members she wanted to go over the methodology. She talked about the funding. We did get an increase this year \$1,063,955 for CDBG. She stated the Public Services have a required 15%. This leaves a balance of \$159,593. We have a couple agencies that we were able to give them over the \$10,000-mark. One was Tigers and the other is UCP. They will receive \$11,772. We distributed the fund evenly. We try to be as fair as we can. New agencies start at \$5,000.00.

Ms. Yearsley stated she would have a memo that covers methodology next year because it differs from on program to another. She explained they allocated twenty percent for the administration cost, and if the funds are not used the remaining amount will go into the housing fund.

Chair Small requested to have a motion from the board.

Board Member Renshaw moved, seconded by Board Member Smith to approve the recommendations of staff for the Public Service Funding Segment. Chevalier, Renshaw, Small, and Smith voted “aye.” All “ayes.” Motion carried. (4-0)

- Bonnie Schnell, Cape Coral Housing Development Corporation, stated she has been with the company since 1995. She noted two types of applications submitted – purchase/rehab and owner/occupied rehab. She explained the owner-occupied rehab is for health and safety issues. This is to help the owner if they cannot afford to repair the home. The City has grown over the last 5 or 10 years so, there is a need. They must have good credit to qualify. The houses are getting more expensive. We have started doing new construction because of the increased cost in housing.

Chair Small stated you mentioned in your application purchase/rehab is becoming more difficult. Could you share more information?

Ms. Schnell stated the houses are becoming more expensive. We work with the City and the agency to purchase the house. At one time the City would purchase the home in our agency's name. Most of the houses now need a large amount of rehab. We are doing more new construction because of the cost to rehab. She stated the organization was the “grassroots” affordable housing agency in Cape Coral.

Member Smith asked if Cape Coral Housing Development Corporation could partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

Ms. Yearsley stated the type of funding for the 2 agencies are done very differently. It is not a duplication of services. Habitat is for lower income that cannot get financed through a bank, affordable houses is a medium income housing.

- Tanya Soholt, Habitat for Humanity, stated we can do this a lot less expensive because we have volunteers. We do have a lot of new construction. We are looking at multifamily homes. They are for home ownership. We are nonprofit. We help low income families. The funds help reduce the mortgage on the home. The CDBG fund helps to reduce the principal amount of the first mortgage. They do not keep a waiting list. The applicant pays \$1,700, Towards closing cost. They attend a training workshop.

Member Smith inquired how many people have asked for your assistance? She asked if there is a waiting with a minimum of 2 years.

Ms. Soholt stated we do not keep a waiting list when families apply. The applicant would need to wait for the home to be completed. The applicants wait less than 12 months.

Council Liaison Stokes questioned whether the two agencies purchase multifamily homes or condo's.

Ms. Yearsley stated one of the challenges are the small condos are expensive. To break even you need to have a least 100 Units.

Board Member Smith inquired about the services available. She stated under your circumstances you are doing well.

Discussion held regarding affordable housing and the challenges.

Member Renshaw questioned how this is profitable?

Ms. Yearsley explained how the process is done by selling the homes and the money is used to continue buying more homes.

- Persides Zambrano, City of Cape Coral, Public Works/Sidewalks She stated they need funding for the sidewalks. She mentioned they have done all they can to get funding from other organizations. The City has been able to put sidewalks near the local schools. She explained there is a need for the funding all over the City. The CDBG funding helped the City address small projects that they could not obtain funding for from the Federal or State Government. She stated when a subdivision is built, then it is required for the contractor to install sidewalks.

Discussion held regarding the requirements of having sidewalks.

Board Member Renshaw moved, seconded by Board Member Chevalier to approve the recommendations of staff for the Public Facilities/Sidewalk Project. Chevalier, Renshaw, Small, and Smith voted "aye." All "ayes." Motion carried. (4-0)

- Tess Bemhem, Goodwill Industries of SWFL, she explained part of the curriculum is to present information on how to move the business forward. They have a lot of participants that are within the low-income range. Specifically, in Cape Coral we enrolled 262, and 185 had graduated. They do a survey to make sure the businesses are doing well. They have been receiving CDBG fund since 2013. She noted 60 businesses started in Cape Coral.

Member Renshaw asked if the business fails does the agency help?

Ms. Bemhem responded in the affirmative.

Board Member Renshaw moved, Chevalier seconded by Board Member Renshaw to approve the recommendations of staff for the Economic Development Funding Segment. Chevalier, Renshaw, Small, and Smith voted "aye." All "ayes." Motion carried. (4-0)

Public Input

Public input opened.

Council Liaison Stokes stated he was pleased to see the City helping these agencies.

Public input closed.

Other Business

Ms. Yearsley expressed the need to have all the members give their input to get the most funding possible for the agencies. She explained the different types of funding that is handled by Washington D.C. She encouraged the agencies to send support letters to the Senators, regarding the need to continue the funding for CDBG.

She announced the next remainder of the schedule for approval.

1st Public hearing City Council meeting on Monday June 4, 2018 and the final City Council Meeting Monday July 23, 2018.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next CDBG meeting (TBD) to be determined.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia Sorrels
Recording Secretary

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| Item Number: | 4.A. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Business |

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Overview of PY 2017-2018 Accomplishments

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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| Item Number: | 4.B. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Business |

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Community Needs for PY 2019-2020 (includes Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for 2019 - 2024)

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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| Item Number: | 4.C. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Business |

AGENDA REQUEST FORM
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

PY 2019 -2020 Schedule

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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| Item Number: | 7.A. |
| Meeting Date: | 3/13/2019 |
| Item Type: | Date and Time of Next Meeting |

**AGENDA REQUEST
FORM**
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



TITLE:

Wednesday May 15, 2019 regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Room 220A

SUMMARY:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: