

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
October 26, 2017 11:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

The Allocation Committee met at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2017, in the Conference Room of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC), 1101 Beach Street, Room 223, Flint, Michigan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

 Christine Durgan called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

 **Present:** Brad Dick, Christine Durgan, David Martin, Ellen Ellenburg, Karen Miller, Paula Zelenko, Sheila Taylor, and Stephen Fuhr.

Absent: Jeff Lutze, Kim Courts, and Mark Emmendorfer.

Others Present: David Yeoman and Nichole Odette.

III. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2017 MEETING

 **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Paula Zelenko, **Seconded by** Brad Dick, to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2017 meeting as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUALS TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

 No one spoke at this time.

V. TRANSFER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FUNDS

 David Yeoman stated that the City of Grand Blanc has requested to transfer \$43,556 from their 2016 Sidewalk Improvements Project to a new project, Demolition of Blighted Structures. The cost of the Sidewalk Project exceeded the available funds and the City did not want to change the scope of the project. Two blighted homes will be demolished under the new project.

 **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Stephen Fuhr, **Seconded by** Karen Miller, to approve the Transfer of Community Development Program Funds as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

VI. TRANSFER OF NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM FUNDS

 Sheila Taylor explained that when the County first received the NSP funding, staff set up projects that would allow Metro Community Development (MCD) to assist the NSP homebuyers with mortgages. The Homebuyer Assistance Program worked in conjunction with the County's Down Payment Assistance Program. The contract with MCD was updated within the last year and now allows them to keep the mortgage payments they receive in order to service the mortgages. Previously, MCD would send the mortgage payments to the County and invoice the County for servicing those mortgages. Staff would like to use the remaining Homebuyer Assistance funding to purchase and rehabilitate NSP homes.

 **Motion: Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Paula Zelenko, **Seconded by** Stephen Fuhr, to approve the Transfer of Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. HUD UPDATE

 Sheila Taylor stated that staff has signed all the 2017 contracts, except one local unit that will be signing today. Staff made one change to the contracts this year, which is to request that the local units and agencies allow the County to place signs at construction sites, in senior centers, and at shelters. The signs will state "this project is funded by Genesee County, GCMPC and HUD" so that the community is more aware of how these projects are funded. Staff is also trying to spread the word through Facebook and Twitter posts about current projects, events, and what the Planning Commission does as an office. Staff has also been promoting the Home Improvement Program and postcards were given to each local unit that recently signed contracts. Please let us know if you need HIP postcards for your offices, your senior centers, or if you would like staff to come talk to your community about the Program. Mundy Township put all of their CDBG funding into the Home Improvement Program, so staff will be holding an open house next month to make sure their residents are aware of the Program. Staff recommends that local Code Enforcement Officers carry the HIP postcards so that they can be offered to residents in need of repairs.

Sheila Taylor stated that about 20 years ago, staff changed to the current three year cycle for distribution of CDBG funds. Beginning soon, staff will be re-evaluating the Community Development Program as a whole. Staff will look at other what other communities are doing with their CD funds and will try to determine if there is a better way to distribute or utilize the funding in order to deliver a better impact. In the coming months, staff will present updates on the evaluation and request input from this committee. We are currently in the third year of the three-year funding cycle; therefore, if any changes are made to the CD Program, they can be in place before the start of the next funding cycle.

Commissioner David Martin stated that he will follow up with his contacts in Washington regarding the timelines for receiving funding from HUD, since the funds were just received and the program year began on May 1st.

Sheila Taylor stated that at a recent conference, the head of HUD's Detroit office informed attendees to expect similar funding allocations for 2018 per Washington.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

 Commissioner David Martin stated that after investigating the issue for almost a year, he believes that the root cause of poverty in Genesee County is teen pregnancy. Statistics show that a single mother without a high school education has an 86% chance of remaining in poverty and her son has 9 times more of a chance of going to prison. Commissioner Martin would like to initiate a community-wide program that is consistent through the GISD and the Health Department to address this issue.

Sheila Taylor stated that the Recycle Day event last weekend went well and Bentley High School staff was very accommodating and helpful. Thank you to Commissioner Martin for helping with traffic control and the City of Burton Police Department for assisting at the entrance and exit. Approximately 1,057 cars came through the Bentley site and 500 cars went through the Flint location.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

 Ms. Durgan adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nichole Odette, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission