

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
October 26, 2023 11:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

The Allocation Committee met at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2023, in conference room 301 of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, MI 48502.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ellen Ellenburg, Dr. Beverly Brown, Martin Cousineau, Brad Dick, Terry Peck, Chris Durgan and Sheila Taylor

Absent:

Jeff Lutze, Shelley Thompson and Colleen Brown

Others Present: Damon Fortney, Anthony Kelly and Renate Soto

There were no members of the public in attendance, nor were any comments received from the public regarding the Allocation Committee meeting or the agenda items.

*****III. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2023 MEETING**

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Ellen Ellenburg **Seconded by** Terry Peck to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2023 meeting as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

*****IV. Mt. Morris Township Transfer Request**

Mr. Damon Fortney stated Mt. Morris Township has requested a transfer of \$1200 from its Job Training program to the Infrastructure Improvements project. The Infrastructure Improvements project will provide entrance signs to the Cass Avenue subdivision, which will make the neighborhood more appealing. The quotes for this project came in higher than expected, so township officials are requesting to transfer funds to that project to cover the difference. This request and contract amendment will be presented at the next Community and Economic Development Committee meeting in November for approval.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Martin Cousineau, **Seconded by** Ellen Ellenburg, to approve the Mt. Morris Township transfer request as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued.

*****V. Recapture of Unspent CDBG Funds**

Mr. Fortney stated that we are transitioning from our 2022 program year and have started moving into the 2023 projects in the last few months. Some of the projects have been completed and closed out with funds remaining or were cancelled by the local unit of government. Mr. Fortney reviewed all of these projects, stating that these funds would be recaptured and placed back into the available CDBG funding account. Once there is enough funding built up in the account, an additional call for projects may be released for local units of government to apply for additional funds.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Martin Cousineau, **Seconded by** Ellen Ellenburg, to approve the recapture of unspent CDBG funds as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. CDBG and ESG Calls for Projects

Mr. Fortney stated each year staff prepares an Action Plan that is submitted to HUD and includes all the new projects for the year. The process for the 2024 Action Plan has been started recently, and the first step is to release CDBG applications to the Local Units of Government (LUG)s to apply for the projects that will be included in the Plan. Mr. Fortney reviewed the CDBG application guide that explains the necessary steps in the application process. This includes CD staff meeting with representatives from each municipality to discuss project eligibility, needs, funding amounts, etc., public hearings are held, local units will submit their applications by the December 6, 2023 deadline, CD staff reviews the applications and provides them to the Allocation Committee and Community and Economic Development Committee for final approval. A final project list will be created and sent out to all municipalities and HUD in March 2024 and all CDBG contracts will be signed August – September 2024. Mr. Fortney mentioned that the City of Davison recently joined the CDBG program.

Mr. Anthony Kelly gave an overview of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). ESG offers funding to people experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. Typically, shelters and other agencies that provide resources to people who are very low income, apply for this grant. ESG is one of the few grants that can be applied to agencies within the City of Flint since most homeless service providers are located in the city, but still serve the entire county. Eligible activities for ESG are Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). ESG does have a match requirement of 100% of their grant award, which may be either a cash match or non-cash contributions that include the value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services contributed to the ESG program. Genesee County will propose to award \$159,068.00, based on last year's grant amount, which will be split between the different categories mentioned above. Mr. Kelly reviewed the application process timeline, which is very similar to the CDBG application timeline. Committee members had questions regarding what agencies, at-risk people could call to get assistance. Mr. Kelly stated that calling 211, Catholic Charities, One Stop Housing Resource Center, and GCCARD are all good resources to get on the radar and get assessed for needs and solutions to those needs. Discussion ensued.

*****VII. 2024 Meeting Dates**

Ms. Durgan reviewed the proposed Allocation Committee dates for 2024.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Terry Peck, **Seconded by** Ellen Ellenburg, to approve the 2024 Meeting dates.

VIII. HUD Updates

None

IX. Other Business

Ms. Taylor gave an update on the Regional Housing Plan, stating that GLS Region V is working with Communities First as co-leads in developing that Plan. Each region in the State is to develop an Action Plan to assess the housing needs of the region and implement the Plan to address those needs. Genesee County is part of Region H, which includes 7 counties and stretches from Shiawassee to St. Clair and includes all counties in the Michigan Thumb area. Representatives from various agencies in all the counties have met several times in the last few months to come up with 4 focus areas of needs and goals to address those areas and ways to measure the goals. The Plan was put up for public comment and submitted to MSHDA 1 month ago. Ms. Taylor stated MSHDA will be hosting a statewide meeting in a couple weeks with all the regional leads to compare the needs and goals of each region statewide, and to give some direction on how to implement the plan. Ms. Taylor believes that funding will be available soon to start implementing the plans. All the Regional Housing Plans are on MSHDA's website for viewing. Ms. Taylor informed the Committee members that she will keep them up to date as they progress through the next steps of the Regional Housing Plan for Region H. Discussion ensued.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Durgan adjourned the meeting at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Renate Soto, Secretary
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission