

Community Development Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

This meeting was held via Zoom. The recording can be found here:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/12SlrBQlxtN_kkXnJgV_arpBcw9uv4PYalROQ9b5VLeqUWPoDKwgX_mhc08U5VG3.2YJyKyxgYOLRu2F_

Commission Members in Attendance

Michael Brooks

Brian Courtney

Mike Johnson

Robert Wagner

Others in Attendance

Julie Smith, Acting Community Development Program Manager

Colette Kroop

Alyssa Bussard, Commission Clerk

Call to Order

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 6:39.

Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2021 meeting

Mr. Courtney called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 10, 2021. Mr. Wagner made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Brooks. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Manager's Report

Ms. Colette Kroop reported on behalf of Ms. Smith. Ms. Kroop informed the committee that town buildings will be re-opening on April 19. In-person visits by appointment will be allowed at the Keefe Center.

ADA Improvements:

There is nothing to report at this time.

Blight

There is nothing to report at this time.

Business Assistance

There is nothing to report at this time.

Down Payment Assistance

There have been two closings since the last meeting and one pre-approval. There are two applications in the process of review.

Fair Rent

There is nothing to report at this time.

Infrastructure

There is nothing to report at this time.

Public Service Agencies

All of the signed agreements and duplication of benefit forms have been received from the COVID-19 public service agencies. Ms. Kroop stated that they are anticipating sending the payments for the mentioned public service agencies as well as the public service agencies of program year 46.

Residential Rehab

There are no new projects at this time, but there are two inspection reports for prior projects.

Other Business

Ms. Kroop reported on the Annual Action Plan and stated that they are in the process of moving forward with the plan. They are planning on seeking an extension with HUD due to the transition in staff as Ms. Smith is still serving as Acting Community Development Program Manager and Ms. Kroop is part time.

There was a vaccine clinic on Wednesday, April 14 at the Keefe Center.

There is a new partnership with the community soup kitchen in New Haven to begin giving out hot meals in Hamden. There was an overview of Keefe Community Center presented at the Crime Prevention Forum.

Ms. Smith arrived at the meeting at 6:50.

Ms. Smith spoke to the commission about a group called Rise Up that is working throughout the state to create 39 murals to honor Martin Luther King Jr. This is through Sustainable CT, so towns can earn points.

Old Business

Ms. Smith explained that The Hamden Jr. Dragons, who a sub-committee met with in March during public service agencies interviews, were found to be ineligible for allocations of funds. Unfortunately, they do not qualify for non-profit status. Due to the ineligibility, they will be taken out of consideration for the allocation of funds.

Due to this change, and the importance of the opinions of as many commission members as possible, the committee decided to wait to vote on the allocation sheet. Ms. Kroop will be sending out a copy of the spreadsheet that has everyone's suggested allocations prior to the next meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Courtney called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Wagner. The meeting concluded at 7:14pm.

Submitted By: Alyssa Bussard, Commission Clerk