

Borough of Huntingdon
Community Development Committee
Thursday, February 7, 2019

The Community Development Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnathan Hyde at 5:00 PM in the Borough Conference Room.

Committee members present were Councilman David Quarry and Vice-Chairman Sean Steeg.

Other members present were President Nicole Houck, Councilman James Bair Jr., Councilman Terry Green, Councilman Robert Jackson Jr., Borough Manager Daniel Varner and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Mark Colussy, Planning Director, Melody Mason, Huntingdon County CDBG, George Drobnock, Grants Administrator, Yvonne Martin, Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce, Robert Reitman, HCB&I, Piper McGonigle and Ellie Wright from Juniata College.

Chairman Johnathan Hyde recognized the guest present and asked for their comments.

- Mark Colussy talked about how to start planning for the 2019 CDBG projects and putting in applications.
- Mark Colussy said that there were two (2) stages that must be met and they are Eligibility and Fundability.
- Mark Colussy spoke on the Eligibility and said that for this the activities must fall under one of the following categories.
 1. Acquisition of real property
 2. Sale of real property acquired with CDBG funds
 3. Acquisition and improvement of public facilities
 4. Acquisition, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of privately owned facilities
 5. Clearance or demolition of buildings
 6. Provision of public services
 7. Interim assistance activities
 8. Removal of barriers to the handicapped
 9. Housing rehabilitation
 10. New housing construction
 11. Code Enforcement
 12. Historical preservation
 13. Commercial or industrial building rehabilitation
 14. Special economic development
- Mark Colussy spoke on the Fundability.
 1. A project must primarily benefit low and moderate income persons, or eliminate blight in a community.
 2. The state presumes that the following groups meet low and moderate income guidelines: elderly, handicapped and victims of domestic violence.
 3. If a project is not for the primary benefit of one of these groups, then 51% or more of the persons living in the service area must meet the income guidelines.

- There was a lengthy discussion on this and about items that were turned down or the borough could not do.
- Dan Varner asked what the timeline was for submitting for CDBG projects in 2019. Mark Colussy said that this date is around November 2nd, but you would have to have your public hearing in the spring.

Chairman Johnathan Hyde then called on Robert Reitman from HCB&I.

- Robert Reitman spoke on the LED project and said that he has talked to Jim Troho from Juniata College, Fred Foster and Nick Payne from Huntingdon Area School District and they were favorable with this and impressed and would donate 10% each towards this.
- Robert Reitman said that he is searching for more funds and said that EDS will also be contributing.
- George Drobnock said that if we use CDBG funds then Davis Bacon and over \$25,000.00 the State wages kick in.

Executive Session was called at 5:52 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 6:15 PM.

The Community Development Committee recommends a motion to continue the Micro-economic loan program thru CDBG.

Dan Varner is to draft a letter on this to answer the letter received from CDBG on keeping the Microloan or not to keep it.

The next meeting we have on the letter received, Councilman Johnathan Hyde, Councilman David Quarry and Councilman James Bair Jr., will be included in the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM

Minutes submitted by

Richard S. King

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary