



CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 14, 2020
1 South Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor, Room 5080
San Francisco, CA 94103
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 5:05 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Marc Vogl, Clinton Loftman, Irene Riley, Aileen Hernandez, and Azalea Renfield (by phone).

City Staff Attendance: Brian Cheu (MOHCD), Maria Benjamin (MOHCD) Mike King (MOHCD), Hugo Ramirez (MOHCD), Malik Looper (MOHCD), Manuel Vasquez (MOHCD), David Taylor (OEWD), Glenn Eagleson (OEWD), Tina Rose Novero (OEWD), and Angel Cardoz (OEWD).

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. **Meeting minutes from December 10, 2019 were motioned by Marc Vogl, seconded by Irene Riley, and approved unanimously by the Committee.**

3. Director's Report (*Discussion Item*)

- a. Brian shared that he recently provided an overview of MOHCD's RFP process and recommended changes to its grant portfolio to the Mayor's Office.

4. Committee Members' Report (*Discussion Item*)

- a. Aileen, in her capacity as staff for BART's Office of External Affairs, has been working to gather information about services and funding to combat homelessness in San Francisco. BART is exploring how to provide more services to the homeless. Aileen welcomes any support, ideas or recommendations others have to help BART prioritize investments in this area.

5. 2020-2025 Community Development RFP Update

Marc asked for time in the agenda to decide how we plan to present the RFP funding recommendations at the public hearing on February 4.

Brian provided an overview of the Committee's role in advising and approving our federal funding allocations. In its current recommendations, MOHCD has shifted the bulk of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars to a handful of grants to more easily comply with HUD's regulations regarding Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs). Brian explained that now that our CDBG dollars are allocated across only a handful of grants, the traditional way that we have conducted the public hearing would not suffice. Instead, this year's public hearing will allow for public comment on all of our FY 2020-21 funding recommendations.

Brian walked through the funding recommendations, starting with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) recommendations first. The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) is in the middle of its ESG RFP and does not yet have any funding recommendations to report. HSH's goal is to maintain the current level of services across providers, but shift the funding sources to use ESG dollars on fewer grantees.

Brian provided an overview of MOHCD's Community Development funding recommendations through its recent RFP. He started by walking through new programs recommended for funding. Brian provided a brief description of each new program. Aileen asked about how MOHCD arrived at the final scores for each proposal. Mike King provided a brief overview of the Scoring & Deliberation process.

After completing a review of new programs, Brian walked through previously-funded programs that are not recommended for renewal funding.

Angel Cardoz provided an overview of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development's recent CDBG RFP process and funding recommendations. Angel and Tina Rose Novero walked through their recommended investments in commercial corridors and services for small businesses.

David Taylor provided a brief overview of ongoing Workforce Development grants. No changes were made to their CDBG allocations.

Brian provided an overview of all MOHCD funding recommendations through its recent RFP.

- Marc asked how we can justify not recommending for funding proposals that received very high scores. Hugo Ramirez explained that staff considered historic funding amounts across strategies, so as not to destabilize organizations and service systems. The Full Slate Review portion of the Scoring & Deliberation process recognized the importance of integrating the scores of the proposal with other departmental priorities, such as racial and neighborhood equity, a variety of program approaches, and support of basic social system infrastructure.
- Aileen commented that she has personally seen meaningful community engagement through the Sisterhood Garden project in Excelsior and OMI. She said that she hopes we can reconsider funding for the Sisterhood Garden proposal.

Preliminary HUD funding recommendations for FY 2020-21 were motioned by Marc Vogl, seconded by Clinton Loftman, and approved unanimously by the Committee.

MOHCD will post the preliminary funding recommendations for FY 2020-21 for public comment on January 22, 2020.

6. Public Comment

- a. Deven Richardson from San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC) said he is a native of San Francisco and he co-chairs the African American Art and Culture Complex (AAACC). He appreciates the efforts of MOHCD to address racial disparities. He explained that African Americans are facing a crisis. He encouraged the Committee to consider fully funding African American-led and serving organizations. Deven explained that, to achieve equity, you cannot necessarily be fair. He shared that a group of African American churches has come together recently and they need funding to support their collaboration. He recommended increasing funding to Rafiki Coalition for Health and Wellness' collaboration grant to include more black churches. He said there are fewer African Americans left in the city to do this work. He wondered why MOHCD was funding homeless organizations when that is the focus of HSH.
 - b. Jameel Rasheed Patterson, Executive Director of New Community Leadership Foundation (NCLF), said he is new to the RFP process. He would like to learn MOHCD's goals. He would like more attention and investment in the African American community. He explained that people tend to follow African American culture, so investment in black culture has a larger impact. Jameel said he would like to see deeper relationships forged between the Golden State Warriors and the local San Francisco community. He said that he is using martial arts as an approach to increase diversity. He said that we need to invest in the things we already have and expand on those strengths.
 - c. Regina Marsh, Executive Director of Booker T. Washington Community Service Center, said that the Center is celebrating its 100-year anniversary. She is new to San Francisco and finds the level of funding incredible. She commends MOHCD for being very purposeful in its RFP process.
- Marc said that he heard questions about the process and he recommends having a one-pager to hand out at the public hearing on February 4 that describes MOHCD's process and goals for the RFP and how its recommendations met those objectives. Those talking points should also be the focus of introductory remarks.
 - Aileen said she hopes that MOHCD is collecting lessons learned from the RFP process and is focused on opportunities to make improvements next time, especially related to racial equity. She suggested tracking those lessons now and making a clear plan for the future.
 - Irene said that MOHCD's RFP process has come a long way since she started on the Committee.

7. Adjournment at 7:20 p.m.