

CDBG Annual Allocation Committee
Meeting 4: January 12, 2012
12:00-2:00 Room 209, City Hall

Attendance: Karma O’Conner, Lori Nicholas, Wendy Harmon, Kris Minister, Victoria Szatkowski, Deb Marquis, Mary Davis, Amy Grommes Pulaski (note taker)

1) Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Amy reviews the handouts in their packet. Nell-Garwood Garvey has resigned from the committee. She wrote a letter to the committee explaining the reasoning, attached.

Amy discloses that her son goes to day care at Youth and Family Outreach. Karma O’Connor discloses her husband works at Preble Street. Lori discloses she works with a number of the non-profits that apply. Victoria comments that as one of the requirements for being on the committee is that you live in Portland and as a result you tend to have connections with many of the organizations or businesses. Portland is a small town.

2) Approve Meeting Summary Dec 22

Victoria moves acceptance, seconded Lori. All vote in favor.

3) Review Scores for Development Activities

The committee reviews the scores. There are two projects tied for last place: Preble Street and Cumberland Avenue Street Light Project. Preble Street requested \$60,096 and the Cumberland Avenue project is \$248,860. The amount of funds available is \$128,597. The committee members discuss which project should be funded. They discuss funding Preble Street the full amount because they can complete the project and the full amount would not fully fund the Cumberland Avenue Project.

Victoria makes a motion, second by Kris, that Preble Street receives full funding. And that the next project, which is tied, Cumberland Avenue Project, receive the remaining amount of funds available. All vote in favor.

Lori makes a motion, seconded by Wendy, to reallocate the \$750 remaining in the job creation set aside to go to the development activities lowest funded project.

4) Vote to Finalize Development Activities

The committee decides to postpone final approval until next meeting.

5) Discussion Social Service Applications : Basic Needs

Frannie Peabody Center: HIV Client Services

Victoria introduces the application and explains that Frannie Peabody has been funded for several years, and was not funded last year. One committee member mentions how MaineCare is being cut for legal non-citizens. Another member likes how clearly the application is laid out and you know exactly how the funds will be spent. The committee discusses the clients served by this program.
No questions or comments.

COP- After Hours Emergency Assistance

This is a program that was taken over by the City in 2007 from Ingaham.

One committee member asks why they are asking CDBG to pay for salaries, why not the diapers fuel assistance etc. Amy says that the funding for the provisions are provided by General Assistance, but there is no staff person to provide the services in the evenings or on weekends. That is the request.

Preble Street: Florence House

Victoria introduces the application. One committee member asks about the cost per unit of service. The committee discusses how a cost per unit of service could be calculated and what it means. Another committee member asks about how they determine whether an individual is a Portland resident. Another committee member would like to see a salary budget to understand what the funds go to pay for.

How did you calculate the bed night number?

What is the average safe haven and average shelter beds per night?

What strategy do you have to move women out of the shelter into a more stable living environment?

Preble Street Resource Center

Victoria introduces. The request is for salary, they would provide 350,000 direct client contacts. Resource Center takes overflow from the Oxford Street Shelter for Men.

What strategy do you have to move persons out of the shelter into a more stable living environment?

Preble Street Lighthouse Shelter

Victoria introduces the application. The committee compares the units and clients served with Florence House.

How many beds will be at the new facility?

How did you calculate bed night number?

What strategy do you have to move teens out of the shelter into a more stable living environment?

Preble Street: Emergency Food programs

Amy explains that the food programs funds breakfast lunch and dinner at the Resource Center, plus food at Florence House, the Teen Center. One committee member asks how they determine how many individuals are not Portland residents.

No questions.

6) Discussion Social Service Applications: Housing

Southern Maine Agency on Aging

The committee reviews the application. Amy explains the evolution of the program over the since 2008. The program has been evolving to better serve their clients. The committee mentions that much of the review of the food has been less than favorable. The committee reviews their description of units of service. There is a lot offered: assessment, support services, three weeks of meals, outreach, and individual follow up at three and six months to determine changing needs.

No questions.