AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF MIDWEST CITY
CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

January 25, 2021 -- 6:30 p.m.
Midwest City Council Chambers
100 N. Midwest Blvd.
Midwest City, Oklahoma  73110

A.  MINUTES


B.  NEW MATTERS

1. Discussion and consideration of conducting a public hearing to provide citizens the opportunity to comment on Midwest City’s housing and community development needs with primary emphasis on needs of the low to moderate income.

C.  OLD AND TABLED MATTERS

D.  COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

E.  PUBLIC DISCUSSION

F.  ADJOURNMENT

THOSE REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS SHOULD CONTACT THE GRANTS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT AT 739-1216 24 HRS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.
Notice of the Midwest City Citizens’ Advisory Committee on Housing and Community Development meeting was filed with the City Clerk, advertised in the Midwest City Beacon 10-days in advance and three copies of the agenda for the meeting were posted 24 hours in advance of the meeting (1) in the lobby of City Hall and (2) in the courtyard agenda cases. The complete agenda was also posted at https://www.midwestcityok.org/meetings.

MINUTES OF THE CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
November 16, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

A Citizens’ Advisory Committee on Housing and Community Development Special meeting, open to the public, was held at the City of Midwest City Council Chambers, 100 N Midwest Boulevard, Midwest City, Oklahoma, at 6:30 p.m., on November 16, 2020, with the following members present:

Committee Present:   Absent:   Staff Present:
Mike Anderson   Julie Mallonee  Ashley Stephenson
Elaine Winterink   Tammy Pote   Terri Craft
Cy Valanejad
Greta Stewart
Kathy Gain

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Anderson at approximately 6:34pm.

Gain pointed out a grammatical correction to the previous meeting minutes. A motion was made by Winterink, seconded by Gain, to approve the minutes as corrected of the meeting held April 20, 2020. Committee members voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Anderson opens the public hearing with discussion and consideration of the 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Terri presented the CAPER results. No public comment. Public hearing for CAPER was closed. Motion was made by Gain and seconded by Stewart to approve the report as written. All voted Aye.

Public hearing was opened for discussion and consideration of a proposed substantial amendment to the 2019 Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CV-3 funds and recommendation to the City Council.

After review of the proposed budget, the floor was opened to public service providers that had responded to the city’s RFP to present their proposals for funding.

First to present was Shari Lopp with Autumn House. Autumn House currently has approximately 160 residents. The largest issue caused by COVID-19 affecting the residents and staff of Autumn House are mental health issues. This is due to the pandemic lockdown of the senior living facility. The residents are experiencing isolation, anxiety, and depression. The staff proposes with CDBG-CV3 funds to establish in-house mental health services. They
will partner with UCO to provide exercise programs for the seniors as well as mental health education, to include group and individual therapy sessions.

Teena Belcik presented for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Oklahoma County. Due to COVID-19 school closures, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Oklahoma County located at Steed Elementary school has gone from an after school program to a full day all encompassing program for the participating students. Previously providing enrichment and mentorship, they have now shifted to add all day supportive services including meals, online school assignments, additional homework help, adult supervision, and professional mental health support - with no additional budget. The CDBG-CV3 funds would be used to close the gap between their current funding and the new services provided.

Maury Hardy is the on the Board of Directors of Leah’s Hope. They have seen a drastic rise in service referrals in the last 6 months due to the effects of COVID-19. In addition to the increase in referrals, they have seen a decrease in resources and funding. They also feel that they will see a second bigger wave of need for transitional housing and services when the eviction moratorium expires at the end of the year. They are seeking funds to expand their services to meet the need for additional referrals.

Mid-Del Group Home Executive Director Lori Jordan presented their request to the committee. Due to COVID-19, many of the workshop contracts have been canceled, reducing their operating budget. The canceling of these contracts has also cut off many of the community clientele that participated in the workshop, thus ending vocation and learning skills for these clients. With the funding, MDGH proposes to begin a virtual vocational training program, making it possible for this vulnerable population to receive the much needed occupational skills in a safe manner.

Neighborhoods in Action Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, presented by staff Terri Craft and Ashley Stephenson. The VITA program is seeking funding to transition the existing program to one that will be safe for those who need in person tax preparation and provide a virtual preparation environment. The funding would be used for PPE, equipment and a complete change of workflow for the program.

Darla Cheek Executive Director of Mid-Del Youth and Family Services spoke about the effects of COVID-19 on their organization. The emergency youth shelter has doubled in the number of children, as well as the children are now at the shelter 24/7 due to school cancelations. The number of staff and hours worked at the shelter have increased, as well as expenses such of food, supplies, and PPE. The counseling service demands have increased as well. Depression and isolation are affecting the at-risk youth population and the services previously provided in the schools, which is currently not allowed. They are needing to hire additional counselors to meet the demand of the population they serve. Domestic abuse is also on the rise and existing shelters are at half capacity due to social distancing protocol. They are also seeking funding for an additional domestic abuse advocate.

Terri Craft presented the proposed activity of reimbursing public service providers for their PPE expenses necessary to operate and continue serving their clientele.

Terri Craft presented the proposed Emergency Relief Program. Providing gift cards to meet immediate needs such as food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, gas, etc. of those in need in the community.
No public comment was received. The public hearing was closed. Winterink makes a motion to approve the substantial amendment as written, nomination was seconded by Stewart and all vote aye. The proposed substantial amendment to the FY19 Action Plan will be submitted to City Council for approval as written.

Begin the discussion and consideration of nominating a new committee chairman and vice chairman. Winterink suggests that we retain both Mike Anderson as Chairman and Cy Valanejad as vice chair and nominates the same. Nomination is seconded by Gain. Vote carries with only one nay, from Valanejad.

No Old Tabled Matters

No New Business

Committee discusses that the annual needs meeting will most likely be held in January of 2021.

No additional public discussion

Motion to adjourn made by Winterink, seconded by Stewart. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Chairman
TO: Citizens’ Advisory Committee
FROM: Terri L. Craft, Grants Manager
DATE: January 25, 2021
SUBJECT: Discussion and consideration of conducting a public hearing to provide citizens the opportunity to comment on Midwest City’s housing and community development needs with primary emphasis on needs of the low to moderate income.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens and community groups with a forum to present information and to express their views regarding the housing and community development needs of our community. This process supports program priorities in the use of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and all comments will be included in the city’s 2021 Action Plan. Public hearings are required at different stages of the plan to encourage citizen input and comment.

Needs may include social services, homelessness, special populations, public facilities, senior services, parks and recreation, youth, infrastructure, crime, neighborhood issues, gaps in services, affordable housing, job training, quality of life, economic development, transportation, substandard housing, child care, fair housing, code enforcement, etc.

During the month of January, an announcement of the meeting was provided on the Midwest City website (www.midwestcityok.org) and social media accounts. Legal notice was provided in the Midwest City Beacon. Notices were emailed to various community organizations, churches, neighborhood associations, schools and interested parties. Notices were also posted at the Midwest City Library, Midwest City Community Center, Midwest City Senior Center, Midwest City Neighborhoods in Action Offices, and Midwest City Neighborhood Services Office.

A short power point presentation on the CDBG program and the consolidated planning process will be narrated prior to opening the public hearing.

Terri L. Craft, Grants Manager
Do you see a need in our city that would affect the low to moderate income community?

Tell us about it!

Monday January 25, 2021 6:30pm
Midwest City Council Chambers
100 N. Midwest Blvd. Midwest City, OK 73110

The Citizens Advisory Committee on Housing and Community Development (CAC) invites you to share your comments and concerns regarding Midwest City neighborhood and community needs. The CDBG Program works to improve housing, neighborhoods, provide community services, and to provide economic opportunities for low to moderate income citizens. All comments received will be included in to the FY21 Action Plan for CDBG funding.

If attending, please practice social distancing and wear a mask to protect yourself and others. Due to social distancing and limited seating, we encourage the public to submit comments in writing via email or social media. Written comments will be received throughout the year at the Grants Management office, City of Midwest City, 100 N Midwest Boulevard, Midwest City, OK 73110.

E-mail comments can be made to grantsmgmt@midwestcityok.org

For Questions or Accommodations please call (405) 739-1216