

Community Development Advisory Committee

February 9, 2023

5:30

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Anton calls the meeting to order

Anton apologized for allowing the Open Mic meeting to go so long but did think we received a lot of answers.

B. Continue Review and Discussion of 2023 CDBG Applications

Richard mentions the new budget from TOA that was sent in and what is going to happen to Merrie's position if we don't fund the project.

Caitie asks Anton if we have funded the HUB project every year.

Anton answers Yes, and the City was rather insistent in the past that this get funded.

Anton brings up that the other organization that has been funded is SMAA every year and early on they did create some transformational programs and different meals so they were funded quite a bit. It's an important program but as our numbers go down and there are other new programs.

Erin mentions that the Rec Scholarships are another one that has been regularly funded and they are at a great price for families to enroll their children.

Conversation ensues regarding the City funding more of the Rec Scholarships vs relying on CDBG funding.

Richard asks about the \$170k set aside for City of South Portland.

Courtney explains the reasoning for the \$170 set aside for South Portland and how that works. Courtney reminds the committee that we need to remember these funds that are going to the projects are to make an impact. We need to keep that in the back of our minds when discussing giving everyone some of the funds available.

Abby brings up the Redbank Community Center – Committee all agrees that should be fully funded.

Anton brings up Preble Street and one questions he wants to know is do they do meal delivery in South Portland.

Caitie wanted to follow up with them regarding door dash because its free does it take precedent over the paying customers. She voiced that we were getting a lot of big numbers and a lot of grant speak but not sure how I feel about it.

Richard voices that feeding hungry people over sidewalks is more important but not he does not want to minimize the need for sidewalks.

Committee discusses funding half of Preble Street.

Committee reviews the budget and how we can split between shared use path and Preble Street.

Richard voices that he feels strongly that we should be funding Preble street.

Anton reads a piece of the application that if Preble Street does not have the funding from CDBG it *may* change the functionality.

Caiti makes a point that it makes a compelling case that CDBG funding should go to Shared Use Path because the tax payers voting on this in the future are not the ones using the sidewalks in this area.

Courtney interjects that we need to keep in mind we have not seen everyone's scores yet.

Anton voices that he wanted to get a sense on everyone's thoughts on funding tonight.

Erin thinks that Redbank Improvements and Shared Use path get fully funded and the remainder goes to Preble Street.

Caitie and Abby agree.

Richard voices he would not do it that way but that's fine.

Richard bringing up Kristin's point previously and not needing to fund every single one and does believe that not all need to fund. He believes that skiing is a luxury

Caitie and Erin voice that this is also about mental health and not having anything to look forward to when going home.

Anton mentions that middle school received funding for bikes years ago and was money well spent and he does want to fund that.

Conversation ensues regarding purchasing ski equipment and how it will last.

Committee all agrees that TTD should be fully funded

Committee continues to review numbers and moving them around as a draft.

Committee all agrees they would like Moya's input.

Courtney remind the committee that we still need to see the scoring and how that averages out before we can make any decisions on who should be funded. What is being discussed may not show in the scoring.

Abby brings up SMAA and the committee feels like they should provide something. Erin mentions that they did say they will continue to run without CDBG funding.

Caitie mentions that we should beef up GPPF funding level, Abby agrees.

Caitie felt like Community Outreach initiative is a great but FD is not public health necessary but emergency services.

Anton thought it sounded like follow up outreach after they have received initial services.

Committee continues conversation about the proactive approach but it might not be the right fit without council and budget backing. It comes from a great place but the execution feels incomplete.

Richard asks Abby the likelihood of SPFD getting funding from Hannaford that they applied for.

Abby explained that the Hannaford grant is real sticky, they lean more towards food insecurity and kids.

Anton brings up QHC and not sure what Mothers Trust is. Caitie mentioned that she couldn't find anything online about what it was.

Anton continues that a small amount would not go far due to the fact that it's a salary and they may not be able to find someone to work for that small amount.

Conversation ensues about thought on numbers and how to fund each project.

Courtney asks the committee to return the scores by Monday and then we will be able to do the final numbers and contingency plan at the next and final meeting.

C. Public Comment

- None

D. Other Business

- None

E. Adjourn