

Community Development Advisory Committee

January 18, 2023

5:30

Anton call the meeting to order

Anton takes time to explain the funding recommendations from last year and what we had for requests and what has been spent thus far.

Conversation ensues regarding last year's amount and possibly going down again.

Courtney explains the infrastructure pot of funds being about 500k but 170k is set aside for a City of South Portland project.

Anton explains process in the past how things are equally important and believes we should start reviewing the application that have applied in past years. Last year and the year before we talked about cutting funding for the rec program and expresses his opinion about the city taking that over and putting funds towards other projects and do we start taking funding from others that we fund every year.

The committee decides to review the Westbrook Street project first. The committee discusses that there is a lot of kids in that area.

The next application is Red Bank upgrades and the committee all agrees that this is a very reasonable ask and it's a great place for kids to access. They should have safe doors and a working score board.

Preble street – Anton comments on what he's read about the program in the press is that it's really needed but how asks many people do they intend to serve in South Portland.

Anton mentions that this is a similar question with other programs such as south Portland food bank and other things.

Erin says that it's important to show our support for the Preble street food hub but it would be good to get the numbers.

Richard asks Courtney to find out where would they find the difference in the path if they did not receive funding – would it be tax payers?

Richard makes a comment that he is a little disappointed with the amount of the request from QHC with the amount we have. He would like some more information in the mckiney program and staff.

Erin asks if we cut checks in July to the programs.

Courtney explains the reimbursement process and documentation required.

Anton goes onto TTD and thinks it's just an important project and will always advocate to fully fund them. The committee all agrees this is an excellent program and they deserve so much more.

Richard moves onto meals on wheels and is always fully supported. Anton agrees it's the kind of project you always want to fund for the elderly but he's unsure.

Richard has to leave but wants to comment on some of the things – less supportive of rec and ski program. Looked at some of the costs of ski poles and equipment and its very inflated.

Erin responds to how great it would be and it could be a stepping stone to bigger things and Matt who runs it is great. Erin thinks giving the ski club something would be great.

Anton likes that when we gave him money for the bikes it seemed to have made a great impact. It's great to get outside for these kids and have other opportunities.

Moya agrees and all kids should dabble in a little bit of everything and something they can look at them achieving.

Conversation continues about skiing opportunity for these kids.

Anton starts to review SPFD Community Outreach and reviews the budget and it makes up the bulk of what they need. Anton is wondering if the City will put up more funding if we don't give full funding. This will be a question for Open Mic Night.

Erin asked if multiple people can come and present for one project.

Courtney explains that depending on the program they bring more than one person to answer questions.

Erin starts reading some increases in the need for scholarships that was written in the rec application.

Anton believes this is where the city needs to step in and provide more funding for scholarships.

Committee continues to discuss fundraising and options to get more funding to Rec.

Erin comments on how many kids are new in the schools due to homeless in regards to the GPPF application.

Anton brings up the last application that is the HUB. He mentions that we have been funding this program since the beginning.

Courtney explains that we really need to look making an impact with the funds vs spreading it thin to each project.

Anton mentions that the HUB is the one that he struggles with the most each year. It seems to be where a lot of the new families end up living.

Erin asks if TOA has a grant writer.

Abby mentions that there is a lot of people at the opportunity alliance that can seek out funding.

Moya brings up the point to look at other organizations and how can create other "hubs" in different areas. How can two of them work together and make the money go further.

Erin mentions some of the problems are very big.

The committee will bring questions to Open Mic for applicants.

Meeting Adjourn

