

CITY OF PORTAGE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of Meeting March 2, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Durian, Ray LaPoint, Elma (Pat) Maye, Nadeem Mirza, Sandra Sheppard, Fiorella Spalvieri, Amanda Woodin, and Lindy Nebiolo, Youth Representative.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Motion made by Durian, supported by Spalvieri to excuse Morgan and Kokkinos. Motion passed 7-0.

STAFF PRESENT: Vicki Georgeau, Director of Community Development

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Spalvieri moved and LaPoint supported approval of the February 2, 2017 minutes as submitted. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

FY 2017-18 Human/Public Service Funding – Board recommendation: Woodin inquired if the city has been notified regarding the CDBG Program entitlement grant for 2017-18. Georgeau indicated the city does not yet know what the grant amount would be, but that the Board is requested to make a recommendation to Council regarding human/public service funding so that a final draft of the city budget can be completed. Once the city is formally notified by HUD regarding its entitlement grant for next year, the human/public service funding would have to be revisited. Woodin referenced the February 2nd meeting minutes and noted that of the funding options presented in the staff report, four Board members and Nebiolo had previously indicated option 1 was appropriate, two members thought option 2 was the best option, and two were undecided. In response to Woodin, Georgeau indicated that option 1 is preferred by staff and noted that while the Portage Community Center (PCC) has requested city funding that exceeds 30% of their 2016-17 operating budget, limiting the grantee to 30% would necessitate a \$4,758 cut in funding from their current fiscal year grant. Georgeau noted that if option 1 funding is recommended, a condition should be included that PCC renew their fund development efforts so that the 30% funding cap can be met in future years. Woodin indicated option 2 seems appropriate as it rewards grantees that perform very well and provides more funding for new applicants. Spalvieri noted that PCC services are not billable like some of the other applicants and PCC is therefore more reliant on grant funds. Under option 1, no agency is losing funding as PCC funding is held steady, existing grantees are receiving an increase and new applicants are receiving a grant award as well. Spalvieri indicated that to be sure PCC is improving in the area of fund development, perhaps a mid-year report to the city and Board would be appropriate. Georgeau indicated support for this idea, as PCC previously had a part-time fund development staff position which is currently vacant. Durian indicated it would be helpful for PCC to provide a report to the Board and noted that a PCC representative used to attend Board meetings on a regular basis. Durian also noted that PCC is the main human service agency in the community. Georgeau concurred that PCC is the main portal to services and that referrals to PCC are routinely provided for emergency assistance and other services. LaPoint noted that the PCC funding request represents 31.2% of their current operating budget and that their 2017-18 budget has not yet been developed. LaPoint also noted that the 30% cap has not been firmly established by a formal policy

or resolution, and that the amount of funding over the recommended 30% cap is small percentage. LaPoint and Maye noted that Twelve Baskets is requesting funding for a food pantry, a service already provided by PCC, and that under option 2, more funding would be provided to Twelve Baskets and other applicants. Georgeau reminded the Board that the evaluation criteria awards more points for applicants that avoid duplication of services. Durian asked for clarification regarding the grant recommendation to Kalamazoo Literacy Council. Georgeau indicated that services were recently added within the city and that the grant amount was small and reasonable to fund as requested. After further discussion, Spalvieri moved and Maye supported a motion that the funding recommended in option 1 be recommended to City Council, with the condition that PCC renew their fund development efforts so that the 30% funding cap be met in future years, and that PCC provide a mid-year report to the Board regarding fund development activity. The funding amounts recommended in option 1 includes the following: PCC-\$124,314 (\$39,726 from the CDBG Program and \$84,588); Catholic Charities-\$12,392; Housing Resources-\$21,400; YWCA-\$12,200; Gryphon Place-\$2,700; Twelve Baskets-\$1,800; Lending Hands-\$1,700; Goodwill Industries-\$1,550; Kalamazoo Literacy Council-\$1,000. Upon voice vote, the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kalamazoo Transit Authority LAC update - Woodin: Woodin indicated there was no meeting held since the last Human Services Board meeting, so there is no new information to report.

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS: No citizens were present.

ADJOURNMENT: Maye moved and Sheppard supported adjournment at 7:35 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Georgeau, Director of Community Development