

CITY OF PORTAGE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting – March 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Portage Human Services Board virtual meeting of March 4, 2021 was called to order by Chairperson Spalvieri at 6:05 p.m. Pursuant to the “Remote Attendance Rules for Meetings,” this meeting was held remotely with board members and staff participating via video/telephone call-in.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alice Mwanda (Portage, MI), Fi Spalvieri (Portage, MI), Effie Kokkinos (Portage, MI), Tim Henson (Portage, MI), Nadeem Mirza (Portage, MI), Barbara Sagara (Portage, MI), Stephanie Upshaw (Portage, MI), Fayyaz Razi (Youth Advisory Board Representative – Portage, MI).

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brooke Kolodzieczyk

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cristy Cate

STAFF PRESENT:

Tom McCoy, Neighborhood Program Specialist, Christopher Forth, Deputy Director of Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upshaw moved and Mirza supported a motion to approve the February 18, 2021 minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS: Review of HPS Funding Recommendation: McCoy reported that the city had received notification from HUD of the FY 21-22 CDBG entitlement amount of \$218,239, which is \$3,555 less than the amount estimated in previous calculations resulting in \$427 less dollars available for allocation to the Portage Community Center. In order to address this \$427 reduction in CDBG funds to PCC, staff recommended a \$427 reduction be made to the proposed General Fund allocation to Twelve Baskets and re-allocated to Portage Community Center in order to provide the previously recommended total of \$120,000 in combined CDBG and General Fund. Spalvieri asked the Board if there were any questions or objections to the re-allocation. There being no objections, McCoy stated the recommendation will be adjusted accordingly and subsequently forwarded to City Council for consideration.

FY 2021-25 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FY 2021-22 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN REVIEW:

Deputy Director Forth presented a summary of these two required documents detailing elements of the Community Development Block Grant Programs. Mr. Forth stated “notices of availability” have been published and the public comment period will end on April 1, 2021. The Board was asked to review and provide comments if desired prior to March 19, 2021 in order to be included in the April 1, 2021 Human Services Board agenda.

NEW BUSINESS: Fair Housing Month Resolution: Staff provided a draft proclamation to be forwarded to City Council declaring April 2021 Fair Housing Month and asked if representative(s) from the Board would be able to attend the March 23rd City Council meeting at which the proclamation would be presented. Mirza moved and Sagara supported a motion to forward the proclamation as presented to City Council. Motion passed 7-0. Spalvieri stated that she would check and advise whether she would be able to represent the Board at the City Council meeting.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS: Portage Community Center Executive Director Chris Buckley provided an update on activities transpiring at the Center and stated that interior and exterior renovations were nearing completion

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further discussion to come before the Board, a motion was made by Henson and supported by Upshaw to adjourn the meeting at 6:30p.m. Motion was approved 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tom McCoy, Neighborhood Program Specialist