**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
**Public Hearing for 2022 Funding**
**September 22, 2021**
**Virtual- Zoom Meeting**

## MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice Chair, Bobbie Littrell, called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. A quorum was met.

## ATTENDANCE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Ron Hue, Chair | X | Gary Earp |
| X | Bobbie Littrell, Vice Chair | X | Vel Wright |
| | Vacant | | |
| X | Christy Watts | | |
| X | Bruce Donner | | |

Staff present:

| | |
|---|---|
| X | Alisha Piper, Community Development Coordinator |
| | Christina Palmer, Director Management Services |
| | Brad Beauchamp, City Council Liaison |

## INTRODUCTIONS

Bobbie Littrell and the Committee introduced themselves to the Zoom attendees and began the proceedings.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were not presented for approval at this meeting.

## PUBLIC HEARING

None.

## OLD BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

None.

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**Senior Life Resources Meals on Wheels - $25,000:** Kristi Thien requested funds to purchase food that will be served to seniors who need help accessing nutritious meals. They target seniors who are over age 75, are low-income, minority, or speak limited English. Home delivery is offered to homebound clients as well as a social dining experience for those who are able to travel to the Kennewick Community/Senior Center. COVID required ALL meals to be delivered while indoor dining was not allowed. Some in-person dining was resumed in 2021 at the Richland location.

**ARC Therapeutic Recreation Scholarships - $23,920:** Sue Pederson requested funds to provide young adults with developmental disabilities who reside in the City with recreational opportunities. Activities can include summer day camps, cooking classes, swimming, social events, etc. The program reduces isolation for disabled individuals and encourages personal care and cognitive assistance to reduce barriers to the community. COVID required scholarships to be used for one-on-one services until small groups were allowed to meet with social distance guidelines. In 2021 they were able to have larger group activities.

**Elijah Family Homes - $3,000:** Matthew West requested funds to continue their Youth Activities Program, which helps provide after school and summer activities for low-income children in their Transition to Success (TTS) program. EFH currently serves four school age children within the City of Kennewick.

**Domestic Violence Services - $10,300:** Angie Pacheco requested funds to do maintenance and repairs to the transitional housing that DVS owns in Kennewick. Exterior painting, fence repair, replenish pea gravel, lawn seeding and tree trimming were on the list of items.

**COK Parks & Recreation Youth Scholarships - $25,000:** Brandon Lange requested funding for the Youth Scholarship program that is run through the recreation department. Low- moderate-income youth are given

opportunities to participate in a variety of sports and activities that run twelve months of the year. These include swimming, martial arts, dance, team sports, etc.

**W. Canal Dr. Sidewalk- $: 400,000:** Heath Mellotte requested funding to install sidewalk, ADA ramps, street lighting, and road widening on Canal Dr. between the SR-395 overpass and Carmichael Drive. The project will provide a safe and ADA accessible route for the low-mod income area. It also provides access to the neighborhood park (Hatfield) and connects the corridor of a collector street, to the bordering LMI area.

**W. 6th Ave. Sidewalk- $: 286,000:** Heath Mellotte requested funding to install sidewalk, ADA ramps, and minor road widening on 6th Ave. between Vancouver Street and Tacoma Street. The project will provide a safe and ADA accessible route for the low-mod income area. It also provides access to the neighborhood park (Underwood) and connects the LMI area to the transit stops and local retail, including a convenience store.

At the end of the oral presentations, Committee members deliberated the merits of funding each of the proposed projects before agreeing to the following outcome:

| **Facility/Infrastructure Improvements** | | **Public Service** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $400,000 | Canal Dr. Sidewalks | $25,000 | COK Youth Scholarships |
| $286,000 | 6th Ave. Sidewalks | $24,000 | ARC Scholarships |
| | | $25,000 | Meals on Wheels |
| | | ~~$ 3,000~~ | ~~Elijah Family Homes~~ |
| | | ~~$10,300~~ | ~~Domestic Violence Svcs~~ |

Elijah Family Homes was not funded since only one scholarship had been awarded and it was felt the funds should not be committed if not being utilized. The suggestion was made to point the EFH families to the City's youth scholarship program already in place through Parks & Recreation.

Domestic Violence Services was not funded since CDBG funds used for maintenance purposes are more difficult to identify as eligible expenses. Alisha checked with the HUD Region X representative to verify. Also, Davis-Bacon would apply and contractor would have to abide by HUD rules, for a relatively small project. It was suggested that DVS try to obtain the funding from some of the other local resources available to help non-profits.

Bobbie Littrell requested a motion for funding the above projects as deliberated – Bobbie Littrell moved and Vel Wright seconded the motion to approve funding as revised and noted. The vote in favor of the above funding was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.