

CITY OF KENNEWICK
CDBG COMMITTEE
September 28, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Ron Hue called to order the meeting of the Block Grant Advisory Committee at 2:30 p.m. on September 28, 2023 in the City Hall Council Chambers.

2. ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Ron Hue, Chair
Bobbie Littrell, Vice Chair
Christy Watts
Jerry Martin
Vel Wright
Christina Palmer, M.S Director
Kylie Peel, Staff Liaison

Members Excused/Absent

Carlo D'Alessandro
Bruce Donner
Jim Millbauer, Councilmember

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There was no open discussion on the August 23, 2023 minutes due to the annual application and presentation schedule.

4. OPEN ISSUES:

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a) 2024 CDBG Application Presentations and Deliberations

The following applicants gave presentations about the programs and projects they have requested funding for:

Senior Life Resources - Meals on Wheels
The ARC of Tri-Cities - Therapeutic Recreation Scholarships
Elijah Family Homes - Transition to Success
City of Kennewick Recreation Dept. - Youth Recreation Scholarships
Domestic Violence Shelter - Shelter Upgrades
City of Kennewick Parks Dept. - Underwood Park Swing Upgrade
City of Kennewick Parks Dept. - Eastgate Walking Path Renovation
City of Kennewick Public Works - Juniper St. Sidewalk
City of Kennewick Public Works - Fruitland St. Sidewalk
Kennewick Housing Authority - 13th & Gum St. Sidewalk

After presentations, the committee deliberated about which projects and programs would most benefit from 2024 funding. The Kennewick Housing Authority's request is contingent on them additionally being awarded CHIP Funds (Community HOME Investment Program) to fund the rest of the overall project. CHIP funds will help bring utility infrastructure into the project development before actual construction of the housing complex can begin. Award are expected to be announced in January 2024.

Given the widespread needs related to affordable housing in the community, the Committee would like to support the Kennewick Housing Authority's request. Since that project is contingent upon other funds being awarded to complete the project, the Committee provided two sets of recommendations on priorities.

The following recommendation – given as Plan A – would be presented to Council in November:

\$10,000 – Elijah Family Homes (Transition to Success Case Management)
\$30,000 – Senior Life Resources (Meals on Wheels)
\$22,500 – The ARC of Tri-Cities (Therapeutic Recreation Scholarships)
\$20,000 – City of Kennewick Recreation Dept. (Youth Scholarships)
\$74,000 – City of Kennewick Parks Dept. (Eastgate Park Walking Path Renovation)
\$382,374 – Kennewick Housing Authority (13th & Gum St. Sidewalk) *contingent upon also receiving CHIP funding.*

Ron Hue opened the discussion on recommending Plan A allocations to City Council and asked for a motion. Christy Watts motioned for the project allocations to be approved. Vel Wright seconded the motion – motion passed unanimously.

It was then discussed how the funds would be allocated if the Housing Authority did *not* receive CHIP Funds and the following recommendation – given as Plan B – would then be recommended to Council:

\$10,000 – Elijah Family Homes (Transition to Success Case Management)
\$30,000 – Senior Life Resources (Meals on Wheels)
\$22,500 – The ARC of Tri-Cities (Therapeutic Recreation Scholarships)
\$20,000 – City of Kennewick Recreation Dept. (Youth Scholarships)
\$90,500 – City of Kennewick Parks Dept. (Underwood Park Swing Upgrade)
\$80,000 – City of Kennewick Parks Dept. (Eastgate Park Walking Path Renovation)
\$220,000 – City of Kennewick Public Works (Juniper St. Sidewalk)

Ron Hue opened the discussion on Plan B recommendations if the Housing Authority did not receive CHIP funding to bring to City Council and asked for a motion. Bobbie Littrell motioned for the allocations to be approved. Vel Wright seconded the motion. Jerry Martin stated he was opposed to funding the Juniper sidewalk project based on the cost. Ron Hue called for a vote. Motion passed 4-1 with Jerry Martin in opposition.

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is set for January 24, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.