

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex
18 N. County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

3:30 PM

2nd floor Conference Room - Central Permit Facility
500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville

Housing and Community Development Commission

1. ROLL CALL

Chairman Rose called the meeting of the Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC) to order at 3:36 p.m.

Guests: Elizabeth Thielen of Nicasa; Claress Pettengill and Cheryl Hudson-Jackson of YWCA Lake County; Donna Jo Maki of the Lake County Administrator's Office; Undersheriff Lawrence Oliver of the Lake County Sheriff's Office; Christofer Nikkinen and Sonolito Bronson of the City of Zion; Maya Ziv-El of Prairie State Legal Services; Stephanie Mercier of the Corporation for Supportive Housing; Takeisha Washington of Raquan's Haven; Michelle Crombie of United Way of Lake County; Lisa Adelmund of Highland Park Community Nursery School; Donovan Day of the Village of Fox Lake; Ben Richards of Waukegan Park District; Joel Williams of PADS Lake County; Laura Ramirez of A Safe Place; Mary Ellen Tamasy of Community Partners for Affordable Housing; Linda Berkowitz of Glenkirk; Kristin Keramidas of Youth and Family Counseling; Susan Shulman of Highland Park Highwood Legal Aid Clinic; Jackie Lynn of ElderCARE; Colleen Lennon of Antioch Area Healthcare Accessibility Alliance; Gail Weil of Community Youth Network; Scott Hilts of the Village of Round Lake Beach; Adriana Gonzalez of Greater Waukegan Development Coalition; Greg Claus of Representative Brad Schneider's Office; Mary Navarro of Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center; and Tom Wilkinson

Staff: Eric Waggoner, Jodi Gingiss, Brenda O'Connell, Eric Foote, Dominic Strezo, Irene Marsh Elmer and Laura Walley

Present 13 - Dan Venturi, Janet Swartz, Michael Meehan, Ray Rose, Anne Flanigan Bassi, Bethany Williams, Mary Dominiak, Stephen Henley, Adam Didech, Jennifer Clark, Linda Pedersen, Diane Hewitt and Mary Cunningham

Excused 1 - Joel Sikes

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 [19-0285](#)

Approval of the January 16, 2019 Minutes

Attachments: [1.16.19 Minutes.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz, seconded by Commissioner Henley, to approve the January 16, 2019 minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 12 - Commissioner Venturi, Commissioner Swartz, Commissioner Meehan, Chairman Rose, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Dominiak, Commissioner Henley, Commissioner Didech, Commissioner Clark, Vice-Chairman Pedersen, Commissioner Hewitt and Commissioner Cunningham

Not Present 1 - Commissioner Flanigan Bassi

3. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chairman Rose welcomed those present and asked them to fill out a comment card if they

wished to address the Commission during the Public Hearing.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (items not on the agenda)

There were no public comments.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 [19-0262](#)

Presentation: Preliminary Results of the Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count

Presented by Brenda O'Connell, Continuum of Care Program Coordinator

6.2 [19-0283](#)

Presentation: Lake County Homeless Crisis Response System

Presented by Jodi Gingiss, Community Development Administrator; Brenda O'Connell, Continuum of Care Program Coordinator; and Stephanie Mercier of the Corporation for Supportive Housing

6.3 [19-0260](#)

Presentation: 2019 Proposed Funding Recommendations - U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), Lake County Affordable Housing Program & Video Gaming Revenue Grants

Presented by Jodi Gingiss, Community Development Administrator; Eric Foote, Grant Administration Specialist; Dominic Strezo, Environmental Project Coordinator; and Irene Marsh-Elmer, Housing Grant Administration Specialist

6.4 [19-0261](#)

PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed 2019 Funding Recommendations- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), Lake County Affordable Housing Program & Video Gaming Revenue Grants

Chairman Rose asked for a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Motion: To open the Public Hearing at 4:55 p.m.

Motion Made By: Daniel Venturi

Motion 2nd By: Bethany Williams

Motion approved

Laura Ramirez spoke on behalf of A Safe Place, which provides services to those experiencing domestic violence, thanking the Housing and Community Development Commission's (HCDC) Advisory and Recommendation Committees (ARCs) for the positive funding recommendations for her agency's programs to heighten and expand services for its clients. The funding recommendation for security improvements will allow

the agency to ensure that individuals who flee from violence aren't at risk of further violence by their abusers. Lastly, she said that the recommended funding for A Safe Place's accessibility improvements project will ensure that those with disabilities will have equal access to the agency's resources and services.

Gail Weil, Executive Director of Community Youth Network (CYN) Counseling Center, stated that the agency had just celebrated its 40th anniversary. The agency offers a school-based therapeutic program which assists families that have been indicated for child abuse. Ms. Weil thanked the HCDC for PY2018 funding, which enabled CYN to help more than 500 at-risk youths and asked that the proposed PY2019 funding be approved, so that CYN may continue this work.

Reverend Jackie Lynn, of ElderCARE, thanked the HCDC for her agency's funding recommendation for its project to provide transportation to Lake County's homebound senior citizens. Last year, the agency provided 1911 round-trip rides to healthcare appointments, allowing ElderCARE's clients to improve their health and maintain their independence by remaining in their homes.

Susan Shulman, of Highland Park Highwood Legal Aid Clinic (Clinic), offered her appreciation for the agency's funding recommendation. She explained that the Clinic was established in 2015 with a mission to provide legal services to those needing assistance with immigration, domestic violence and housing issues. The proposed funding will be used to help those experiencing domestic violence, a project that has expanded from helping 7 victims during 2016 to aiding 119 victims during 2018. Ms. Shulman added that the Clinic has reached out to surrounding communities to offer its services to a larger area.

Elizabeth Thielen, of Nicasa, thanked the HCDC for Nicasa's funding recommendations. She stated that she is the President of the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling and informed those present that Lake County may be the only Illinois county utilizing Video Gaming Revenue funds to help mitigate the harm caused by gambling. Nicasa is working hard to spread the word about gambling addiction and to provide services to help those with this problem. She provided literature and cards for dissemination.

Maya Ziv-El, Fair Housing attorney for Prairie State Legal Services' Fair Housing Program (Program), thanked the HCDC for continued funding for the Program and informed those present that the funds allowed Prairie State to add a staff attorney who handles only housing discrimination cases. She said she recently noted that the most prevalent type of discrimination has been against people with disabilities, both physical and mental, and then spoke of other recent cases handled by the Program using Lake County funding. The Program also provided Fair Housing Rights Act training to many social service providers, community groups, landlords and the staffs and clients of the local housing

authorities. Currently, the agency is working with Community Development staff to assemble data for the upcoming Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Ms. Ziv-El asked that the HCDC favorably consider the Program's proposed funding, thereby allowing the agency to continue serving the County's residents.

Cheryl Hudson-Jackson, of YWCA Lake County, explained the agency's tenets and programs including the youth STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) after-school classes and summer camps, currently reaching 594 youths. The YWCA believes in the early introduction of STEM education; the proposed funding would allow the agency to initiate the TechGYRLS project, to introduce possible career paths to young girls.

Motion: To close the Public Hearing at 5:07 p.m.

Motion Made By: Jennifer Clark

Motion 2nd By: Mary Cunningham

Motion approved

76.5 [19-0263](#)

Commission Action: Vote to Finalize 2019 Grant Funding Recommendations

Attachments: [VGR Funding Recommendations.pdf](#)
[HUD Grants Funding Recommendations.pdf](#)
[Tier 2 Funding Recommendations.pdf](#)

Presented by Jodi Gingiss, Community Development Administrator

A motion was made by Commissioner Venturi, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, to approve the 2019 Grant Funding recommendations, as presented in the PY2019 Funding Recommendations sheet. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 9 - Commissioner Venturi, Commissioner Swartz, Commissioner Meehan, Chairman Rose, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Didech, Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Hewitt and Commissioner Cunningham

Abstain 4 - Commissioner Flanigan Bassi, Commissioner Dominiak, Commissioner Henley and Vice-Chairman Pedersen

6.6 [19-0267](#)

Commission Action: Amend Policies for the Provision of Assistance through Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Attachments: [ESG Policies, Standards & Procedures- February 2019 revision redline.pdf](#)

Presented by Eric Foote, Grant Administration Specialist

A motion was made by Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Venturi, to approve the request to amend the Policies for the Provision of

Assistance through ESG grant funding, as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 13 - Commissioner Venturi, Commissioner Swartz, Commissioner Meehan, Chairman Rose, Commissioner Flanigan Bassi, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Dominiak, Commissioner Henley, Commissioner Didech, Commissioner Clark, Vice-Chairman Pedersen, Commissioner Hewitt and Commissioner Cunningham

7. STAFF REPORTS

Jodi Gingiss, Community Development Administrator, informed the HCDC that staff has spoken with HUD about the potential Lakeview Pointe affordable rental project; HUD will consult with the EPA to determine if there are any air-quality risks at that site. Staff will wait on a determination before proceeding with this project. She then informed the HCDC that the Village of Lake Villa has called its loan on the Busy Brains Children's Museum, as the venue has not completed rehabilitation within the set time limit to open for business. The project is now considered a failed project and the Museum must repay the invested HUD funds through the sale of the property. HUD has been informed of the project's status.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Venturi, seconded by Commissioner Henley, to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 13 - Commissioner Venturi, Commissioner Swartz, Commissioner Meehan, Chairman Rose, Commissioner Flanigan Bassi, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Dominiak, Commissioner Henley, Commissioner Didech, Commissioner Clark, Vice-Chairman Pedersen, Commissioner Hewitt and Commissioner Cunningham