

**MINUTES
CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010
6:30 PM-CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Community Grants Advisory Commission (CGAC) of the City of McKinney, Texas, held a Public Hearing at the City Hall, Council Chambers, located at 222 North Tennessee Street, October 28, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Commission members present were Rachelle Campbell, Brenda Carter, Celso Martinez, Aaron McMahan, Ada Simmons and William Wehunt. Member Kim Hubbard-Hall was unable to attend when the meeting was scheduled. Jennifer Cox, Director of Planning/Interim Manager of Community Services; Shirletta Best, CDBG Administrator; and Christine Lawton, CDBG Coordinator represented City staff. Councilwoman and CGAC Council Liaison Geralyn Kever also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chairperson McMahan; he officially opened the Public Hearing to consider the Community Support Grant funding requests for the 2010-2011 grant year, and he explained the order of the agency presentations. Each agency would receive up to ten minutes for their presentation, including questions from Commission members.

The first presenter of the evening was Susan Williams, Executive Director for Journey of Hope Grief Support Center. Ms. Williams gave a brief overview of services stating the agency's provides grief support to children or teens after the death of a close loved one. The agency's \$5,000 fund request will support part of the salary and benefits for the Program Director and Administrative Assistance. Clients are referred to the agency by teachers, pastors, funeral directors, family and the internet. Support groups are provided at not cost.

The second presenter was Tammy Maham, Director of Behavioral Services for LifePath Systems. Ms. Maham stated the agency is requesting funding for substance abuse services. The \$33,000 fund request would provide counseling to 24 McKinney residents unable to afford the services (uninsured) or those where no other funding is currently available. Ms. Maham further stated without this funding residents seeking this type of assistance would be turned away. Chairperson McMahan asked for clarification regarding the number of people LifePath intended to serve with this grant request, as the grant application states 50 people. Ms. Maham stated it must be a typo as the request should be for 24 people.

The next presenter was Lee Stark representing the Maurice Barnett Geriatric Center, Inc. Mr. Stark stated the agency serves the needs of McKinney residents age 55 and older by providing access to preventive health care services. Mr. Stark explained the agency's funding request of \$9,990 would assist in expanding from its single location at the McKinney Senior Center to other locations within the city. Mr. Martinez asked how often the agency would

see a client and Mr. Stark stated on average a senior will seek their services three times within a year.

The next presenter was John Long, President of McKinney Soccer Association. The association provides recreational soccer for youth and adults within the county and games are currently played at Craig Ranch. Mr. Long stated that the \$5,000 funding request would replace two-way radios, tents, goal nets, coaching educational videos and upgrade the golf carts. Mr. Long further stated the association is an all volunteer staff with one paid employee, which is the office manager.

Next was Wayne Kirk, President of River Ranch Educational Charities. Mr. Kirk stated the charity provides horse related activities to youth, as well as providing entertainment and space for other non-profits to conduct Gala's and events. Mr. Kirk explained the \$300,000 fund request will assist the charity in building an indoor arena to protect patrons from elements when working with special needs and underprivileged kids. Ms. Cox asked if the charity had additional funding sources as the CSG is limited in the funding it can allocate. Mr. Kirk stated any funds granted to the charity, no matter how small, would be placed into a building fund until all proceeds are raised to build the arena.

The next presenter was Carl Ungurait, Corps Officer for the Salvation Army-McKinney Corps. Mr. Ungurait briefly stated the \$12,000 request would supplement assistance in the form of rent, mortgage and utility assistance given to low to moderate-income McKinney families and individuals experiencing crisis. Mr. Ungurait also stated the funds would supplement the salary for a full time caseworker. Ms. Best asked if there were other funding sources that would supplement the program and Mr. Ungurait confirmed it would be leveraged with funding from the CDBG Grant.

Virginia Brooks and Stephanie Tyson, representing Seeds Sowers Ministry were the next presenters. Ms. Brooks gave a brief overview of the organization and stated the \$32,570 funding request will provide supplies, curriculum and overhead costs associated with the *Bridges Out of Poverty* program, designed to mentor and educate families living in poverty. Ms. Tyson elaborated that *Bridges Out of Poverty* is a 15-week program where the goal is to bridge relationships among economic groups toward breaking the cycle of poverty. Mr. Wehunt asked if the program was faith-based and Ms. Tyson stated no.

The next presenter was Jim Malatich, Director of Operations for The Samaritan Inn. Mr. Malatich stated the grant of \$7,000 requested would continue counseling services to children who witnessed or experienced abuse. Mr. Malatich further stated the shelter is about to expand. The office personnel are moving into a new building and that currently used office wing would be opened to families, allowing an additional 30 to 40 children living at the shelter. The shelter has a maximum capacity at this time of 121 beds.

Next was Kristja Falvo, Executive Director of YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas-McKinney Branch. Ms. Falvo stated the agency's \$12,712 fund request would assist the agency to continue their partnership with the McKinney ISD Community Access Program. Ms. Falvo explained the program provides special needs students, ages 18-22 with life-skill courses that will improve their health and well-being. Ms. Campbell asked if the agency considers the families' income when offering services and Ms. Falvo stated no, not for this program.

The last presenter was Amira Barger representing North Collin County Habitat for Humanity. Ms. Barger gave a brief overview of the agency and stated the \$20,000 fund request will assist the agency in acquisition of at least 10 residential lots. Ms. Barger further stated the funding is requested to cover payroll expenses for a Land Acquisition/CDBG Coordinator and one Americorps Construction Supervisor. Chairperson McMahon asked who finances the homes for the agency's clients and Ms. Barger stated Habitat serves as its own funding and servicing agent.

Chairperson McMahon thanked all the nonprofit agencies for their presentations. He then motioned to adjourn, in which Mr. Martinez seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Aaron McMahon, Chairperson