

**MINUTES
CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS
COMMUNITY GRANTS ADVISORY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2011 AT 6:30 PM
COMMUNITY SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM**

The Community Grants Advisory Commission (CGAC) of the City of McKinney, Texas, met in regular session in the Community Services Conference Room, 314 S. Chestnut, Suite 101, Wednesday, January 27, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Commission members present included: Rachelle Campbell (*Co-Chairperson*), Brenda Carter, Celso Martinez, Ada Simmons, William Wehunt, and Kim Hubbard-Hall. Chairperson Aaron McMahon was unable to attend when the meeting was scheduled. CDBG Administrator, Shirletta Best, represented City staff. Councilwoman and CGAC Council Liaison Geralyn Kever also attended.

Co-Chairperson Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

The first items on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2010 Community Support Grants deliberations meeting. Co-Chairperson Campbell asked if members had changes or additions to the minutes, in which there were none. Co-Chairperson Campbell motioned for approval of the minutes and Mr. Wehunt seconded. The vote passed unanimously 6-0.

The next agenda item included the Discussion and Review of FY 2011-2012 Community Development Block Grant Budget and Application Process. Ms. Best provided a program summary on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and she reviewed criteria for use during the application process. Ms. Best also provided members with the PowerPoint presentation viewed by attendees at the non-mandatory Pre-Application Information Meeting. Ms. Simmons asked if the person attending the meeting would also be the same contact to present during the public hearing process. Ms. Best answered that in years past particularly during the period of 2003-2005, it was not the same person. However, staff now stresses to agencies to be consistent - to have the same contact attend the pre-application meeting as well as present during the scheduled public hearings.

For information purposes, the schedule is as follows:

- May 11, 2011. Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 222 N. Tennessee Street.
- May 12, 2011. Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 222 N. Tennessee Street.

The final Deliberations meeting will take place Thursday, May 26, 2011 in the Community Services Conference Room, Suite 101, 314 S. Chestnut. (*Note: Dates listed were revised from original meeting schedule*).

The last item on the agenda was the review, discussion, and program briefing from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and National Community Development Association (NCD) Winter Policy

Meeting held in Washington, D.C. Ms. Best serves on the Board of Directors for NCDA - the primary organization that supports all community development and affordable housing activities funded by HUD or other national agencies. The annual winter meeting provides a forum for directors from HUD Headquarters to share with attendees detail about national program updates; compliance issues or concerns; and input on budget concerns or directives. Ms. Best also explained HUD grantees - like the City of McKinney - are afforded the opportunity to meet with their state Congressional Leaders to thank them for support, and to share stories about the use of funding their prospective communities.

Ms. Best expressed the growing concern among HUD grantees about potential cuts to the current budget overall CDBG national budget (*currently under a continuing resolution*) and reviews which may call for potential program elimination, as one of many federal programs targeted to help balance the National budget in FY 2012. While this type of discussion has occurred in years past, Ms. Best stated it still speaks to the urgent continued need of engaging congressional leaders to keep CDBG in place. Ms. Best was a part of the grantee group to visit the offices of both Texas senators during the meeting. Mayor Loughmiller committed to providing letters of support to Congressmen Hall and Johnson, and also met with each Congressman during his January visit at the National Conference of Mayors – which also meets at the same time as the NCDA policy meeting.

Councilwoman Kever stated she would continue to talk in media interviews about the need to support CDBG and the impact it will have under the new Census 2010 data. Concern was shared among CGAC members and interest was expressed to assist with outreach to talk up the program. Staff will research suggested to incorporate into current advocacy outreach activities between the months of February through June. (*These activities include CDBG Week and Fair Housing Month in April.*)

Co-Chairperson Campbell thanked everyone for their participation tonight and motioned to close the meeting. Ms. Hubbard-Hall seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Co-Chairperson Campbell