



**TAKE NOTICE THAT A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PHARR, TEXAS
WILL BE HELD AT CITY HALL, COMMISSIONERS' ROOM,
118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS
COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM ON
THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019**

The City of Pharr has called this meeting as allowed pursuant to Texas law, city charter, and Ordinance O-2018-45. The governing body may recess from day to day when it does not complete consideration of a particularly long subject as authorized by law.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A) Roll call and possible action on the excusing of any absent member of the governing body.

2. PUBLIC HEARING:

A) Citizen participation, for or against the Action Plan 2019 Recommendations .

B) Citizen participation to gain citizen input on the community needs, proposed projects and the goals and objectives for the city's 4-year Consolidated Plan and Strategy to U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

3. ADMINISTRATIVE:

A) Approval of minutes for meetings April 4, 2019 and May 30, 2019.

4. ADJOURN

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above notice of said Meeting of the Community Development Council of the City of Pharr was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall and on the City's web page at www.pharr-tx.gov. This Notice was posted on the and will remain posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said Meeting, in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated (Open Meetings Act).

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, this .

AGENDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEETING
June 20, 2019

HILDA PEDRAZA, TRMC, CMC
CITY CLERK



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Community Development
Council

AGENDA ITEM #: 2.A.

DATE SUBMITTED:

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2019

FROM: Sonia Barajas, CDBG Secretary

DEPARTMENT: GMCD

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Citizen participation, for or against the Action Plan 2019
Recommendations .

Classification: Public Hearing

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

Issue:

Financial Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

ROUTING:

Sonia Barajas
Raul Garza

Created -



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Community Development
Council

AGENDA ITEM #: 2.B.

DATE SUBMITTED:

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2019

FROM: Sonia Barajas, CDBG Secretary

DEPARTMENT: GMCD

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Citizen participation to gain citizen input on the community needs, proposed projects and the goals and objectives for the city's 4-year Consolidated Plan and Strategy to U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

Classification: Public Hearing

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

Issue:

Financial Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

ROUTING:

Sonia Barajas
Raul Garza

Created -



AGENDA MEMORANDUM



BOARD: Community Development
Council

AGENDA ITEM #: 3.A.

DATE SUBMITTED:

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2019

FROM: Sonia Barajas, CDBG Secretary

DEPARTMENT: GMCD

DIRECTOR:

Agenda Item: Approval of minutes for meetings April 4, 2019 and May 30, 2019.

Classification: Regular

(* If closed session, City Attorney must review and approve.)

Exclude Material from Public Packet? No

Reason:

Issue:

Financial Consideration:

Staff Recommendation:

Alternatives:

ROUTING:

Sonia Barajas
Raul Garza

Created -

MINUTES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING
WORKSHOP
April 4, 2019

A Public Meeting/Workshop of the Community Development Council was held on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at the Commissioners Conference Room located at 118 S. Cage Blvd. 2nd floor. The following was discussed, meeting commenced at 6:00 pm.

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chairman Rene Cantu called to order the meeting and roll call at 6:00pm.

Members present: Chairman Rene Cantu

Jose Rodriguez
Romeo Rosales
Ruben Solis
Trinidad Z. Suchil
Marco Gonzalez
Danny Smith
Joe Hinojosa
Norma Treviño

Members absent:

Belia Garcia
Lucio Gaitan
Joe Hinojosa

Staff: Raul Garza-GMCD Director
Santiago Salinas-CDBG Manager
Sonia Barajas, Secretary
Carlos Montemayor, CDBG Accountant

Public Present: See Attached Roster

Chairman Rene Cantu entertained a motion to excuse the absent members, Jose Rodriguez approved the motion seconded by Mr. Solis, motion carried unanimously all in favor.

- II. **Public Workshop:** for the presentation of the submitted CDBG Request for Funds applications for the One-Year (1) Action Plan 2019/2020.

Chairman Rene Cantu thanked and welcomed all the agencies present. Chairman Cantu also said Mr. Salinas will be presenting the agencies applications requesting funds in a power point presentation. Mr. Raul Garza, GMCD Director welcomed two new members, Mr. Romeo Robles and Ms. Trinidad Z. Suchil. Mr. Garza addressed the members and the public present and mentioned that the agencies would come to the front of the podium during their turn of the presentation to answer any questions presented by the Council.

Santiago Salinas, CDBG Manager, introduced himself and thanked the members and public present for taking the time to attend and participate in the workshop. Mr. Salinas continued with the power point presentation as follows:

1. **Area Agency on Aging**: Mr. Salinas presented AAA requesting \$5,000 to assist 20 Elderly with medical equipment and medical transportation. No Representative present.
2. **Comfort House Services**: Requesting \$15, 000, David Perez, Administrator stated they are requesting monies for salaries of onsite caregivers to assist 25 Pharr residents on a 24 hour basis, that have entered the specialized hospice care.
3. **Su Casa de Esperanza**: Belinda Simons, Executive Director stated that Su Casa de Esperanza is an Early Childhood Development Program Center. The program has 3 different elements which are: Pre-natal, Infant Stimulation and The Toddler Program. Requesting \$25,000 to leverage funding assistance on the salaries of the part-time instructors.
4. **CASA of Hidalgo County**: Court Appointed Social Advocates. CASA represents in court children that are victims of abused. Requesting \$3,000 to assist 12 Pharr children. No Representative present.
5. **The Salvation Army**: Requesting \$4,000 to assist 6 Pharr Families, that are at risk to become homeless, with Rental Assistance. No Representative Present.
6. **Affordable Homes**: Bobby Calvillo, Executive Director. Mr. Calvillo stated, that the company has been for 43 years and it's a non-profit organization, they build new homes and rehabilitation. Requesting \$358,478 to assist 7 families. Council Jose Rodriguez asked if that program was using the 17 lots from the city, Mr. Calvillo answered that was a different program. Ms. Suchil asked for the name of the program, The Family Foundation.
7. **Silver Ribbon**: Dee Ochoa, Interim Program Director, requesting \$10,000 to assist the 35 Elderly from Pharr with rental, utility and medical bills.
8. **Fire House Boxing Gym**: Pete Arredondo, Director and Joe Perez (fire fighters) briefly described the program. The program runs based on volunteers at no cost to the children, the money requesting will be to purchase sports equipment. Requesting \$10,000.
9. **Food Bank**: Omar Rodriguez, requesting \$30,915.28 to assist 329 seniors from the Mesquite and Sunset Terrace with 40Lbs of free food once a month for 11 months.
10. **Boys and Girls Club**: Alfredo Mata Jr., Executive Director briefly described the program and requesting \$150,000 to assist 110 Pharr children with six core programs. Money will be used for staff and supplies.
11. **Children's Advocacy**: No representative present, requesting \$15,000 for salaries of the staff providing direct services to Pharr children as abused victims. Proposing to assist 85 children.
12. **Amigos Del Valle**: Isabell Aranda and Fabiola Ramirez briefly described the program. They deliver hot meals to homebound elderly Pharr residents. Requesting \$25,000 to assist 14 Pharr Residents.

13. **RGV Literacy Center.** Diana Farias, Director thanked the board and staff for continuing funding the program. Ms. Farias briefly described the program of all the classes provided to the Pharr residents. Requesting \$20,000 and proposing to assist 35 residents of Pharr.
14. **Pharr Fire Prevention:** Fire Inspector Lopez, briefly described the program and they are requesting \$7,000 to be used on the purchase of fire prevention outreach material.
15. **RGV Families/Friends of Murdered Children:** No representative present, requesting \$10,000 to be used for salaries, utilities, professional contractual services, printing and program supplies. Organization is proposing to assist 10 Pharr residents with on-going family crisis of victims of murdered relatives.
16. **LRGVDC-Valley Metro:** No representative present, Mr. Salinas briefly describe the Valley Metro Services which the City has an Interlocal Agreement with them. Requested \$60,000 proposed to assist 26,000 Pharr residents.

Mr. Salinas entertained any questions from the Council and also mentioned the main binder with all the applications and supporting documentation would be available in the CDBG office for anyone wishing to inspect it for further details on the agencies. Mr. Salinas informed the members after this presentation staff will be working on the recommendations and will start the 30-Day Comment Period for the public.

Mr. Raul Garza mentioned and invited the members to the CDBG Week celebrating on April 25, 2019 from 10:00 to 1:00 at the lobby first floor

Adjourn:

Chairman Rene Cantu entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jose Rodriguez made the motion, Mr. Ruben Solis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Rene Cantu, Chairman

Ruben Solis, Secretary

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
2nd PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING
MINUTES MAY 30, 2019

The City of Pharr's Community Development Council held a public hearing/meeting for the purpose of soliciting comments on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Citizen participation is encouraged, and comments received will be considered for the City of Pharr's 4-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy for 2019-2022.

Thursday, May 30, 2019
Commissioners Room
118 S. Cage Blvd. 2nd Floor
Pharr, Texas 78577

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call:** Chairman Rene Cantu started the hearing/meeting at 6:00 p.m. according to the published Public Hearing/Meeting Notice. There being a quorum for the meeting, the public hearing was open to the public.

Council Members present:

Jose G. Rodriguez
Ruben Solis
Belia Garcia
Romeo Robles
Trinidad Suchil
Rene Cantu
Lucio Gaitan

Council Members absent:

Marco Gonzalez
Danny Smith
Joe Hinojosa
Norma Treviño

Chairman Rene Cantu entertained a motion to excuse absent members, Ruben Solis moved to excuse the members absent seconded by Jose Rodriguez, when it came to a vote it carried unanimously.

Staff Present: Raul Garza, Director
Santiago Salinas, Program Manager
Sonia Barajas, Administrative Assistant

Public Present: No public present.

- 2. Second Public Hearing:** Citizen participation on the development and submission of the city's 4-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Mr. Raul Garza, GMCD Director talked about the 4-Year Plan being a HUD requirement that needs to be submitted every 3-5 years, in this case the city's 4-Year submission was as a result of the substantial amendment from last year. The 4-Year Plan hearing is to collect input from residents on the community needs in housing, economic development, infrastructure thus identifying the development of the one-year action plans to follow.

Santiago Salinas, Program Manager made comments on the Cloudburst Consulting Group assisting with the development of the on the 4-Year Plan and will be submitted with the Action Plan on August 15, 2019. Additional data collection will be accomplished through a survey that is on the city's webpage. Mr. Salinas encouraged the board to have friends and family to participate in the survey and help us collecting as much data as possible. Also, we'll be having a Stakeholder Session day on June 26, 2019 along with the agencies that provide different types of services. The sessions will consist of two sessions at City Hall and South Pharr at Su Casa de Esperanza.

3. Administrative:

A) Approval of minutes for February 27, 2019 and March 7, 2019.

Chairman Rene Cantu entertained a motion to approve minutes for both meetings Jose Rodriguez moved to approve minutes, seconded by Romeo Robles, when it came to a vote it carried unanimously.

B) For Discussion/Approval: Action Plan 2019 Recommendations.

Mr. Romeo Robles asked how the agencies were ranked. Mr. Salinas explained, the main reason staff had the board participate in ranking the agencies was to have an input from the advisory for the consideration and decision of the award recommendations. Recommendations were as follows: (See attachment).

Mr. Raul Garza said, staff recommendations were based on previous years funding, timeliness the agencies spent the funds and their overall performance measures.

Mr. Salinas explained the distribution of the total entitlement grant for this year, \$1,150,930.00 20% for Administration, 15% (\$172,369.00) for Public Services, \$400,000.00 for the Section 108 Loan and the Non-Public services had no cap. Chairman Rene Cantu read all recommendations one by one. Councilman Robles asked about the scope of work with Downtown Assistance Program (DAP), Mr. Garza explained that HUD allows funds to be used in downtown programs for economic development. City Manager would like to revitalize the downtown by assisting with rent for a couple months to get the business started or by helping improve the inside of the building and or the front of the building as well. Those businesses will help create new jobs and will generate revenues. Also, two new boards will be reactivated, the Historical Commission and the Main Street Board will be an integral part of the DAP in providing advisory assistance on the applicants of the program.

Mr. Salinas explained the process of the Demolition Program is an in-house activity through the Development Services Department/Code Enforcement Division, they do an inventory of abandoned or dilapidated structures that needs to be demolished, CDBG provides the Waste Management bin up to \$5,000.

Mr. Lucio Gaitan made a motion to accept recommendations seconded by Mr. Solis, when it came to a vote it carried unanimously.

Mr. Salinas informed the Council that the upcoming process after this meeting the would involve for the recommendations to be presented to the City Commission and we'll be having a City Commission Public Hearing as well the second meeting in June, the 30-Day Comment Period and the final submission. The City Commission authorize the final award for the action plan.

Mr. Garza commented on the substantial amendment to the Section 108's Aquatic Park schedule. In February 2019 Parks and Recreations proposed to implement two new programs, Swimming Stroke and Water Polo session for a few weeks. The city followed its citizens participation process and HUD approved the amendment as presented. In the end, the programs never were actually implemented and the stayed the same.

4. Adjourn: Chairman Rene Cantu entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Jose Rodriguez moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Lucio Gaitan, when it came to a vote it carried unanimously.