

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 started the workshop at 6:00pm. There being a quorum workshop started.

Members present: Chairman Rene Cantu

Jose Rodriguez
Romeo Robles
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, Mr. Cantu also said Mr. Salinas will be presenting all the agencies requesting in a power point display. 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 this year presentation would be different as Mr. Santiago Salinas will do a Power Point Presentation of all the agencies and as each Agency will come to the front to answer any questions if any. Santiago Salinas, Program Manager, introduced himself and thanked the members and public present for assisting, Mr. Salinas continued with the power point presentation as follow:

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 asked the members of any questions he also mentioned we have the main binder with all the applications if they would like to know more details about 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.

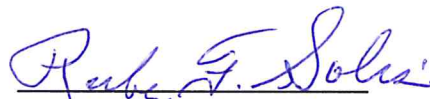
Mr. Raul Garza mentioned and invited the members to the CDBG Week celebrating on April 25, 2019 from 10:00 to 1:00 at the lobby first floor

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