CSBG Advisory Council
Minutes of Meeting
August 19, 2019

Members Present: Larry Bloemker, Lindsey Ebers, Deborah Edelman, Walt Harris, Crystal Jennings, Bessie Palmer Harris, Raymond Otero, Fred Schulte, Maura Wuellner

Members Absent: Dionne Jackson, Carole Meyer, Chad Rollins, Margarette Trushel, Alan Winslow

Staff Present: Joe Bolt and Kerry Cornine

Mr. Bloemker called the meeting to order. Ms. Cornine made roll call.

Ms. Kelly Chapman from Senior Services Plus was the guest speaker. Ms. Chapman is the project manager for The CSBG Housing Maintenance and Improvements Program, commonly known as the handyman program. She explained the program is for people 60 years of age and over who meet 125% poverty income guidelines and are homeowners. Senior Services advertises the program with flyers and in their monthly newsletter. Two 'handymen', Michael Carpenter and Steve McCuen, are on staff at SSP and can do basic carpentry, electrical, plumbing, door, and windows. Once a potential client contacts Ms. Chapman they are scheduled for an appointment to complete an application and must bring in their qualifying information (Social Security Cards, proof of income, proof of home ownership, etc.). Once the application is completed it is sent to Madison County via a secured network system (Serv-U) for verification. Once Madison County CSBG approves the application notification is sent to Ms. Chapman and the project can begin. Madison County provides up to $500.00 of CSBG funds toward each project. An additional $500.00 is available through another SSP partner, making the limit on each job $1,000.00. Ms. Chapman reinforced how beneficial this program is in keeping clients' living independent and their best quality of life. Kelly Chapman may be contacted at (618) 465-3298 ext. 115 for more information.

Mr. Bloemker asked members to review the minutes from the previous meeting (pages 1-2) of June 17, 2019 and place them on file at MCCD. Mr. Otero made motion to approve the minutes with a second from Ms. Wuellner. The motion was approved.

No public comments were made.

Mr. Bloemker announced the recommendation of Lori Rodgers for The CSBG Advisory Council. Members reviewed Ms. Rodgers' resume (page 3). A motion was made by Ms. Dionne Jackson to accept Lori Rodgers as advisory board member representing Beverly Farm Foundation (private sector) seconded by Ms. Lindsey Ebers. The motion was approved.

Attendees were provided with the 2019 CSBG Work Programs (pages 4-6). Mr. Bolt explained most programs are on target to reach their goals, as we are now at the half way point of the program.

Attendees were provided with the Characteristics Report (Page 7-8) and Financial Report (page 9). Mr. Bolt explained that a budget modification was done to account for a $104,000 carryover from FY2018. This funding will be used for new administration/program support as CSBG regains homeless and housing programs. If no new employment occurs the funds will be returned back to the direct client assistance programs.

Mr. Otero inquired about a previous program that provided hotel vouchers. Mr. Bolt explained the hotel vouchers were discontinued due to other programs that provide a similar service. The subject segued to rental assistance and the point system associated used to prioritize clients. At this time the point system does not seem to be working well. It was mentioned that it is easier to keep people housed than to start over. More discussion on this subject will follow.

Mr. Bolt informed the council of possibly assisting flood victims in the Granite City area. He plans to ask for addition funds to provide senior citizen who lost their air conditioning due to the flood with window AC units.

There being no further business Mr. Bloemker made a motion to adjourn, second by Ms. Jennings. The CSBG Advisory Council meeting was adjourned. The next CSBG Advisory Council meeting will be on Monday, October 21, 2019.