

CSBG Advisory Council
Minutes of Meeting
March 16, 2015

Members Present: Amy Meyer, Ben McCall, Scott Rose, Larry Bloemker, Maura Wuellner, Chad Rollins, Larry Wise, Jennifer Roth.

Members Absent: Anne Tyree, Margarett Trushel, Alan Winslow, Marcia Wickenhauser, Bessie Palmer-Harris, Michael Weber, Randall Viessman.

Staff Present: Joe Bolt, John Herzog and Amy Lyerla.

Chairman Amy Meyer called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm and made roll call. Chairman Meyer welcomed everyone to the newly revised CSBG Advisory Council and gave us brief background of her experiences. Introductions were made. Chairman Meyer is looking forward to serving on the CSBG Advisory Council and reassures our commitment to working together to bring about potentially new programs and services for our low-income residents.

Mr. Joe Bolt, Program Coordinator provided a brief overview of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program. CSBG is a federally funding program that mandates that states distribute their CSBG funds through Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) with 90% to the State's network of Community Action Agencies, 5% for discretionary anti-poverty programs and 5% for state administration. Each year, CSBG conducts a needs assessment to determine potential programs and services that has been identified as problem areas from the annual needs assessment.

CSBG funds are used for the following types of programs including: Employment, Education, Emergency Services, Health, Housing, Income Management, Linkages, Nutrition, and Self-Sufficiency.

Madison County's 2014 funding amount is \$588,390.00. The 2014 CSBG program year runs from January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015 however with the reduction of the CSBG Loan Program the program year has been extended to June 30, 2015. Mr. John Herzog, Director of Programs along with Mr. Bolt provided background and explained reasoning for the reduction of the loan program. Mr. Herzog made the distinction between the repaid principal amount of the loan program that is on hold until further notice and the interest bearing amount that is operational and available for business loans.

Ms. Amy Lyerla, CSBG Planner made the announcement of new board members serving on the Advisory Council. Madison County Community Development has a new Executive Director, Mr. Frank Miles who suggested that the CSBG Advisory Council be separated from the Madison County Grants Committee. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Advisory Council is comprised of 15 members, five members each representing the public, private and client sectors. As a result, the Madison County Board Chairman appointed 5 elected officials to serve – Ms. Amy Meyer, Madison County Recorder (Chairman); Mr. Scott Rose, St. Jacob Township Supervisory; Mr. Larry Bloemker, Mayor of Hamel; and Mr. Alan Winslow, Mayor of Bethalto.

Madison County Community Development (MCCD) is currently waiting to hear back from the remaining appointee. The nominating committee needed to fill 3 vacancies on the council, 1 from private sector and 2 from client sector. The committee voted and has selected Mr. Ben McCall representing America's Central Port (private) and Ms. Anne Tyree representing Wellspring Resources for mental health and substance abuse disorders (client) and Ms. Margarete Trushel representing Oasis Women's Center for victims of domestic violence (client). Thank you for agreeing to serve!

Ms. Lyerla asked each of the remaining and current board members present if they wish to remain on the advisory council – Ms. Maura Wuellner, United Way of Greater St. Louis (private); Mr. Chad Rollins, William Be Dell Achievement & Resource Center (private); Mr. Larry Wise, Highland Community Church (client); Jennifer Roth, Madison County Mental Health Department (private). All present members reaffirmed their commitment to serving another 2 years. Thank you again!

Chairman Meyer asked the members to review the minutes from the previous meetings on November 10, 2014 and place them on file at MCCD. Mr. Wise motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Ms. Wuellner. The motion was approved.

No public comments were made.

Mr. Bolt reported on the CSBG work program summary sheets on activities provided by Madison County (pages 9-12) and well as the work activities, referring to the client activity report on page 13 of the packet Mr. Bolt indicated all of the work programs are on target to meet their goals and made note that the CSBG Loan Program has been adjusted to reflect its reduction. Page 14 of the packet includes the demographic characteristics of people served so far during the 2014 program year.

On the budget side of CSBG (page 15) MCCD has currently spent \$495,912.47 (84%) of the 2014 allocation of \$588,390.00. In the individual program categories the Program Support is at 83% expended, Direct Client assistance is at 97%, Administration at 64%, and Category D – Loan Program/Skill Training at 61% expended.

The 2015 CSBG budget has been recently been approved and will begin as soon as 2014 direct client assistance funding is spent.

There being no further business Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Wise. The CSBG Advisory Committee meeting adjourned.