

City of Valdosta CDBG Citizen Advisory Committee

Monthly Meeting – Minutes

Monday, July 24, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

City of Valdosta – City Hall Annex, Multi-Purpose Room

Members Present: Councilwoman Vivian Miller-Cody, Thomas Simpson, Karla Walker, Bill Donaldson and Pastor David Adams

City Staff Present: Vanassa Flucas

Guest Present: Molly Ferrier, Corey Hull, Callie Mathis and Willie F. Parker

The Meeting was called to order by Ms. Vanassa Flucas at 5:34 p.m., followed by an invocation given by Pastor Adams. Molly Ferrier from Habitat and Corey Hull with the South Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC) were introduced. Mr. Hull is present for the meeting to provide a presentation on transportation.

Ms. Flucas provided an overview of recent works accomplished through partnerships with Habitat including the Tom Park Edu-Scape and beautification project. As part of the grant provided to Habitat to help with the project the members were asked to complete a brief survey.

Ms. Flucas turned over the meeting to Mr. Hull at which time he provided his presentation. The Long-Range Transportation Plan was discussed. To gather the information, it took the following: 1. Social Economic Data Study, 2. Common Community Vision Study and 3. Transportation Mission Plan. Mr. Hull would like to continue to collaborate with this committee to better serve the community and further our collective efforts. Discussion held regarding transportation concerns and goals. This included the Public Transit needs for citizens.

Ms. Flucas provided to each member a copy of the Meeting Minutes from the last official meeting. At this time the 2020 Goals were addressed. At the next meeting in October, Ms. Flucas suggested we plan to come in early for a mini retreat, in order to have the allotted time to go through the goals and reassess before we move into next year. Ms. Flucas acknowledged the newest members, Mr. Thomas Simpson, Pastor David Adams and Councilwomen Miller-Cody and also emphasized the importance of gathering our committee members together to help us do what needs to be done. The plan will be to come in at 3pm, and work until 6pm. Dinner will be provided.

Ms. Flucas reminded all present the purpose of the committee. Even though the City is an Entitlement Community, we as a committee need to be the guiding force behind the activities funded. We need to help our citizens know how important it is to voice an opinion regarding the funding allocated.

Ms. Flucas reviewed the FY2017 allocations and activities. FY2017 began July 1, 2017 and runs through June 2018. The Total Allocation was for \$578,619.00.

Activities provided from the total are as follows:

\$266,410.00 Economic Development

* \$50,000.00-Small Business Seed Loan Program

* \$20,000.00-Small Business Education/Partnership with Chamber

* \$196,410.00-Great Promise Partnership Program

\$196,486.00 Housing

* \$171,486.00-Single Resident Occupied Rehab/Reconstructions

* \$15,000.00-Removal of Slum and Blight / Bulk Trash Amnesty Events (2-per year)

* \$10,000.00-Fair Housing Education

\$115,723.00 Program Administration

The Meeting Minutes from the previous meeting held July 25, 2016 were reviewed. Ms. Walker made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilwomen Miller-Cody seconded the motion. The Meeting Minutes from July 25, 2016 meeting have been ratified.

The last item discussed was for the Back to School event. The focus will be to collaborate with other organizations to create one event. We are looking to have two locations and also offer this again mid-year (around January). Ms. Flucas handed out the flyer and registration form for review and discussion. From this event we will look to gain important information from parents and citizens on other programs of interest. By collaborating with the School systems we can also further their initiatives. Discussions have been held regarding the implementation of uniforms. This event can be a catalyst to also assist with having a “Uniform Closet” during future events.

There were no additional agenda items to discuss, so the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.