



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Virtual Meeting)**

Chaired by Mayor Pro Tem Chris Williams

Members: Williams, Hudson, Jefferson, and Johnson

June 15, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

As part of the city of High Point's COVID-19 mitigation efforts, in-person attendance was not allowed at this meeting. Instead, the meeting was live-streamed, and the public was provided a link to listen to the meeting as it was being live-streamed.

www.HighPointNC.gov/VirtualPublicMeeting

CALL TO ORDER (Virtual Roll Call)

Chairman Chris Williams called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. Following a virtual roll call, the following attendance by Committee Members was duly noted.

Present (2): Chairman Chris Williams, and Committee Member Cyril Jefferson

Remotely

Present (1): Committee Member Wesley Hudson

Absent (1): Committee Member Tyrone Johnson

Staff Present:

Randy McCaslin, Interim City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Michael McNair, Director of Community Development & Housing; Jeron Hollis, Managing Director; and Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Staff Participating Remotely:

JoAnne, Carlyle, City Attorney; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; Michelle McNair, Community Resource Manager; and Nena Wilson, Assistant Director of Community Development & Housing

Also Present:

Dr. Patrick Harman

Also Participating Remotely:

Dr. Pamela Palmer, Board Chair of the Guilford County Continuum of Care (CoC); Brian Hahne, Executive Director of Partners Ending Homelessness; Heather Skeens, DHHS Director; and Cheri Neal, CoC Program Manager

The following documents associated with the presentations, are hereby attached as a permanent part of these proceedings:

- 1. Special Allocation from the CARES Act Substantial Amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan, and the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan*

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2021-225 Update-Homeless Services-Guilford County Continuum of Care

Staff and Officers of the Guilford County Continuum of Care will provide an update on Homeless Services.

Dr. Pamela Palmer, Board Chair of the Guilford County Continuum of Care (CoC) extended greetings; voiced appreciation for the opportunity to share information about the CoC; recognized Brian Hahne, Executive Director of Partners Ending Homelessness, Heather Skeens, DHHS Director, and Cheri Neal, CoC Program Manager who all are working with the CoC; said that the Board of the CoC officers were elected, and that she would be the chair; spoke to the Stronger Together Task Force; said they meet every Friday; focused on maintaining a collaborative continuum of care network; spoke to being a part of the Homeless Day Center Project in High Point; and recognized Mr. Hahne to provide an update on ending homelessness.

Mr. Hahne recognized Heather Skeens and Cheri Neal who would be providing an update on the COVID-19 response in Guilford County; gave an overview of clients who were moved safely to shelter; spoke to the needs for shelter; to focusing on housing, public health, and diversions; and thanked everyone for their partnership.

Ms. Skeens voiced appreciation for Ms. Neal's hard work and efforts in her job role; spoke to additional funding for the county; to the different types of assistance available; and to having discussions on expanding housing opportunities for the public.

Ms. Neal extended greetings; spoke to starting a Crisis Response Team in Greensboro and High Point; to doing outreach in the communities; and to developing an organized response plan to become better prepared to a crisis situation.

Chairman Williams thanked everyone for their time and efforts; and spoke to the importance of providing essential services to the community.

2021-226 Presentation-Community Read Project

Dr. Patrick Harman and Mary Sizemore will give a presentation on the Community Read Project (This project is designed to encourage leaders and residents to read a book titled "Trust First").

Dr. Patrick Harman extended greetings; gave an overview of the book titled "Trust First" written by Bruce Deel, which is a part of the Community Read Project; said the book was based on serving individuals experiencing homelessness; the kick off for the Project would begin on July 4th at the Farmer's Market in High Point; next meeting for the Project would be on September 14th at the High Point Museum; there will be a read and chat conversation; and thanked Ryan Ferguson, CPE Manager, and Mary Sizemore, Library Director for their time, and efforts on the Project.

Ms. Sizemore encouraged everyone to read book; spoke to her experience in other community read projects; highlighted the meaning of the book; and said that the High Point Library had copies of the book that would be available for the community.

2021-227 Update-CDBG-CV3 Funding

Staff will provide an update on the CDBG-CV3 funding.

Michael McNair, Community Development Director shared a PowerPoint Presentation on the Special Allocation from the CARES Act Substantial Amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan (AAP); and the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan (ConPlan). There was an \$588,651 special allocation of the CDBG-CV3 from the CARES Act that would require an amendment to the AAP and ConPlan; spoke to requesting to utilize the remaining funds to fund the Homeless Day Center Project (Center); said the funding would be used to gain site control and to facilitate the development; gave an overview of what the Center would provide as well as other opportunities, such as the potential of permanent housing; voiced the need for the Center; and requested a recommendation from the committee to propose the amendment at the public hearing scheduled for June 21st before the City Council.

Committee Member Jefferson spoke to doing what's best for the community; to opportunities; commended Mr. McNair on his collaboration and efforts; said that High Point was revitalizing itself; to addressing those who are experiencing homelessness; to the support to the community from the city government and elected officials; and voiced appreciation from the supporting agencies.

Mr. McNair noted that long term, the city would not operate or own the Center; intent was to obtain a homeless provider to take over with experience and expertise in providing assistance for homelessness.

Chairman Williams inquired on the cost effect on moving individuals safely in to shelter-hotels during the Furniture Market. Ms. Neal replied that 80% of the hotel expenses were paid with the help from agencies; said

that the cost for hotels increased during the Market; and that some individuals were redistributed to other hotels.

Committee Member Jefferson made a motion; seconded by Committee Member Hudson to forward the Substantial Amendment to the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan to the City Council with a favorable recommendation for approval. Following a roll call vote by Chairman Williams, the motion carried by the following 3-0 unanimous vote.

Aye (3): Chairman Williams, Committee Member Jefferson, and Committee Member Hudson

Absent (1): Committee Member Johnson

Chairman Williams thanked everyone for their time and efforts; and reiterated the need for the Homeless Day Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Christopher Williams, Chairman

Attest:

Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk