

City of High Point

*Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260*



Minutes

Tuesday, August 3, 2021

4:00 PM

Council Chambers

Community Development Committee

Christopher Williams, Chair

Wesley Hudson

Cyril Jefferson

Tyrone Johnson

Mayor Jay Wagner (Alternate)

Mayor Pro Tem Britt Moore (Alternate)

Community Development Committee - Council Member Williams, Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Williams called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Following a roll call, the following attendance by Committee Members was duly noted.

Present (3): Chairman Chris Williams, Committee Member Wesley Hudson, and Committee Member Cyril Jefferson

Absent (1): Committee Member Tyrone Johnson

Staff Present:

Tasha Long Ford, City Manager; JoAnne, Carlyle, City Attorney; Randy McCaslin, Deputy City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; Michael McNair, Director of Community Development & Housing; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; and Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Also Present:

Dr. Pamela Palmer, Board Chair of the Guilford County Continuum of Care (CoC) (remote participation); Giselle Mansi, YWCA; and Dalton Lucas, Volunteer

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

[2021-341](#)

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; spoke to collaborating with agencies; said that the agencies collectively applied for a grant and was awarded \$30,000; funds would be used to assist individuals in need; shared a success story assisting an individual with housing at Avondale Trace Apartments that accommodated persons with disabilities; voiced appreciation to the Community Development Department for their assistance; explained the rapid rehousing program, and process; said that the program's intentions was to rapidly house individuals in need; and commended staff for their hard work and efforts.

Chairman Williams voiced appreciation to Dr. Palmer in helping make a

difference; and for sharing updated information on Homeless Services.

2021-342

Presentation-VaxConnect Project

Giselle Mansi, YWCA will be giving a presentation on the VaxConnect Project.

Attachments: [Vax Connect Project PPP](#)

Gisselle Mansi, Director Latino Family Center, YWCA extended greetings; made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) on the VaxConnect Project; said that the center worked in conjunction with Guilford County, and the Health Department; said the Project had volunteers that conducted a door-to-door campaign aimed to boost vaccine rates in the city of High Point, NC; the campaign included education on the vaccine, and assisted scheduling appointments; shared the numbers to date on the number of citizens that were assisted; 3,556 doors were knocked on, and 207 people made appointments; transportation was also arranged for 40 individuals as well; and recognized Dalton Lucas, Volunteer, VaxConnect to share stories of impact regarding the program.

Mr. Lucas said that volunteers conduct door-to-door campaigns using a buddy system; spoke to safety first; positive outcomes; shared impact stories on discussions with individuals regarding concerns on receiving vaccinations; and said that he was able to provide information and answered questions.

Ms. Mansi said that her team received guidance from the health department; they assisted with training and informing the public about the vaccine; said that the information put out was from experts; provided the next locations that the volunteers would be visiting that included parcels 136.01, 138, 143, and 145.01; said a survey was conducted and resulted in a 37% increase in vaccinations compared to surrounding areas; commended the dedicated team of volunteers for being instrumental to the work completed; emphasized building trust in the community; shared a link for those who wished to volunteer <https://linktr.ee/VaxConnect>; and entertained any questions.

Chairman Williams thanked Ms. Mansi for her efforts; and that he looked forward to volunteering.

2021-343

Discussion-Core City Neighborhoods and Potential ARP Funding

Staff will be discussing the Core City Neighborhoods and Potential ARP Funding.

Attachments: [ARP and Core City Neighborhoods](#)

Michael McNair, Community Development Department Director extended greetings; made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP) on the Core City Neighborhoods and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); reviewed

discussions from the February 25, 2020 meeting as followed:

- Utilized BIS tools and data to compare neighborhoods
- Quality of life variable such as crime, code enforcement, tax delinquencies, homeownership rates and energy usage
- Recommendations:
 - a. Consider strategic enhancements inside neighborhoods
 - b. Leverage existing or upcoming revitalizing events
 - c. Neighborhood enhancement team
 - d. GIS Data Team

Mr. McNair continued discussion regarding ARPA, and the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF); the funding were to address revenue losses and added safety expenses resulting from the pandemic; FRF also authorized assistance to communities most disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, ARPA considered communities in the Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) to have been most negatively impacted, and the FRF funding could provide assistance in impacted neighborhoods; the QCTs defined as 50% of household incomes; FRF established activities considered presumptively eligible in QCTs such as emergency home repairs; assisted the Guilford CoC agencies for services such as rapid rehousing, homeless day center, and permanent housing for the homeless; and provided preliminary recommendations for the Underhill Area as followed:

- Provide emergency repair and weatherization services to every house in the target area. (\$25k maximum assistance to homeowners (deferred loans) and \$12.5k maximum 0% loans to investor owners (cost sharing))
- Identify infrastructure needs (lights, sidewalks etc...)
- Infill development opportunities

Committee Member Jefferson thanked Mr. McNair for his efforts; voiced excitement for opportunities; and inquired on the next steps. Mr. McNair replied that the next steps would require a multi departmental analysis for infrastructure requirements to make a review.

Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager spoke to recommendations on how ARPA fund could be used in regards to types of investing for streets and neighborhoods.

Tasha Long Ford, City Manager said that once a neighborhood was identified, staff could research opportunities for infill development on vacant lots; building on visual improvements, such as enhancing neighborhoods; investing in neighborhoods; spoke to taking a holistic approach; and to having further discussions on choosing a location.

Discussion took place regarding the next steps; recommendations; further discussions; narrowing the scope; leveraging what the housing authority was already doing.

Ms. Long Ford asked the committee if they would like staff to focus on the Underhill area presented at today's meeting. Chairman Williams replied yes.

Committee Member Hudson voiced excitement on choosing a location; and voiced the importance of the City of High Point's history.

Ms. Long Ford advised the committee that staff would come back at a later date with numbers for infrastructure, and housing.

It was the consensus of the committee to allow staff to research and gather information and come back at the next committee meeting for further discussion before presenting recommendations to the mayor and council.

Chairman Williams thanked staff for their efforts; and spoke to informing the public regarding the HOPE Program for those who need assistance.

Mr. McNair clarified that the HOPE Program was now offered through the Guilford County Department of Social Services (DSS); stated that there were funds available for those who needed assistance; explained the rental assistance process; and said that there was also a program offered for mortgage assistance as well.

Committee Member Jefferson requested updates from the High Point Housing Authority on the Daniel Brooks Project at the next scheduled committee meeting; and encouraged everyone to participate at today's National Night Out.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Christopher Williams, Chairman
Attest:

Mary S. Brooks, CMC

Deputy City Clerk