

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
PUBLIC HEARING
March 29, 2021
City of Bristol
2021-2022 Community Development Block Grant Program
6:00 P.M. BRISTOL CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ATTENDEES: Howard Schmelder, Tom Hick, Michael Zammett – ECD Commissioners

STAFF: Dawn Leger, Grants Administrator
Justin Malley, Executive Director-ECD
Christine Cooper, Administrative Assistant

The Hearing was called to order by ECD Policy Committee Chairperson Howard Schmelder at 6:00 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Opening Remarks were read by Commissioner Schmelder:

Welcome to the second Public Hearing for the CDBG Annual Action Plan for the program year 47 beginning July 1, 2021. I am Howard Schmelder, Chair of the CDBG Policy Committee.

ECD board members and staff were introduced.

Each year, as part of the required public process in the CDBG consolidated and annual planning for funding allocations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City of Bristol, through the Economic and Community Development Department, holds meetings and public hearings for the purpose of announcing and discussing the ECD's recommendation of programs and funding for submission to the ECD Board, the Bristol City Council, and finally to HUD.

The allocation from HUD for Year 47 is \$653,957. The ECD Policy Committee approved and issued the proposed use of funds on March 8, 2021. This list has been published in the local newspapers. A Public Comment Period begins today and continues until April 26, 2021. The ECD will forward all written comments to HUD. If anyone wishes to make a comment, please state your name, the agency you represent and the address for the record.

Because we have people in attendance and some using Zoom for this hearing, it is important that you clearly identify your prior to speaking. You may also email your comments to dawnleger@bristolct.gov.

1. Mary Etter, Executive Director, Bristol Adult Resource Center.
She thanked the commission for their proposed allocation and asked if they had any questions.
2. Tom Palmer, President, Bristol Recovery Club.
He thanked the commission and asked if they had any questions.
Howard Schmelder informed him that they would be making a visit to their facility this year. Dawn Leger will send them a letter to explain the CDBG process as they are a first-time applicant.
3. Larry Covino, Bristol Adult Education.
He thanked the commission. He is looking forward to inviting the commission to a graduation ceremony. They will begin marketing the program July 1. The program runs September – December.
4. Jess Stepensky, Program Director, YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Service.
She provided a brief overview and focus for this year.

5. Donna Osuch, United Way of West Central Connecticut
She thanked the commission for their support. The Farmers to Families program became very successful. They are applying for the Walsh Summer Work program.
6. Barbara Damon, Executive Director, Prudence Crandall.
She thanked the commission for including them in their recommendations.
There has been a high demand for their services. The shelter is full and the overflow is full. They have sheltered over 700 Bristol residents this past year.
7. Laura LaMar, Bristol Housing Authority, Komanetsky Estates.
She thanked the commission and asked if there were any questions.

No other comments were forthcoming from the Public.
The Public Hearing was closed at 6:12p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cooper, Recording Secretary