

**Meeting Minutes  
State College Borough  
CDBG/Citizen's Advisory Committee  
May 3, 2016**

The State College Borough Community Development Block Grant/Citizens' Advisory Committee (CDBG/CAC) meeting was called to order by Chairman Meashey on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 12:06 p.m. in the Borough Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, in Room 241.

**Members Present**

Jay Meashey, Chairman; Selden Smith, Vice-Chairman; Shelton Alexander, Marcia Patterson and Connie Randolph

**Others Present**

Ed LeClear, Planning Director; Elizabeth Eirmann, Planner-Housing Specialist; Denise Rhoads, Staff Assistant; Phil Jones, Director of House of Care; Amy Rumbel, Shelter Director, Women's Resource Center (WRC); Vanessa Baronner, Director, Burrowes Street Youth Haven (BSYH) and Stepping Stone Transitional Living (SSTL) and Ron Quinn and Susan Venegoni of Housing Transitions, Inc.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Patterson to approve the March 1, 2015 minutes as submitted and Ms. Randolph seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**Chair Report**

Chairman Meashey stated he met with Women's Resource Center (WRC) regarding funding which is used for their overnight shelter employees. He noted it is the only shelter that is a secured 24/7 facility. He stated he met with their Executive Director Anne Ard and their Shelter Director, Amy Rumble. He noted if a person reaches out to Housing Transitions, Inc. (HTI) and needs protection they are then referred to WRC. The shelter can accommodate up to 15 people. They serve, annually, about 80+ women and about 30+ children. Chairman Meashey stated the most interesting item he discovered is if the Borough reduces the amount of money allocated to the WRC then the WRC has to go to the VOCA and ask for additional funding through their agency. Also, WRC pays property taxes to the Borough and the shelter director noted the Borough is a very strong partner to the WRC.

The CAC members stated they were appreciative of Chairman Meashey's efforts.

## **Public Hour**

Ms. Venegoni asked how the community can be more involved with CDBG infrastructure funding. Mr. LeClear stated he will discuss this in length during the June 7 meeting.

## **Public Hearing on Program Performance**

Mr. LeClear's overview included:

- HOME funds are \$337,720.
- CDBG funding of \$512,931 has a 15% cap. These funds are used to fund Women's Resource Center (WRC), Housing Transitions, Inc. (HTI), Burrowes Street Youth Haven (BSYH), Stepping Stone Transitional Living (SSTL) and House of Care (HOC).
- \$76,939 was spent in funding the above programs and total persons served was 209.
- Infrastructure funding included streetlight replacement and ADA curb ramp installation on Beaver Avenue from H Alley to Burrowes Street with CDBG funds expended of \$174,807.06.
- No households were purchased through the State College Borough low or middle income program in 2015.
- The State College Community Land trust (SCCLT) purchased three homes in 2015.
- One Borough rehab project in 2015 and two remain in progress in 2016.
- The Bellaire Court Rehab Project is now underway.
- Funds at the end of 2015 were: CDBG \$807,614.58 and HOME \$539,460.06.
- The timeliness Ratio for CDBG was 1.77 and a 1.5 or less is required.
- All HOME commitment and expenditure deadlines were met in 2015.
- 2016 allocations were released and they were: CDBG \$503,073; a decrease of 1.9% and HOME \$339,937 with an increase of .7%. Mr. LeClear noted there is no expectation of a budget being passed for 2016.
- On June 7 there will be a public hearing on Needs and Proposed Use of Funds.
- 2017 Action Plan is due November 15, 2016.

Ms. Randolph asked if the funding that is allocated from CDBG and is not used by using our own Public Works crews can be used elsewhere. Mr. LeClear stated that would be a question for Mark Whitfield, Public Works Director.

Ms. Randolph asked if there was consideration in placing a stop light at the new affordable housing complex, the Atherton Place, at the corner of Atherton and Pugh Streets. Mr. LeClear stated they met with PennDOT and PennDOT stated the intersection was fine the way it is.

Ms. Venegoni pitched for more affordable rental units like the Kemmerer Road project. Mr. LeClear stated staff looks at properties that may be eligible from time to time.

Mr. Quinn stated he appreciates the Borough's ability to recognize the complexity of housing needs and the support of those needs.

Ms. Rumble stated they are proud of the WRC shelter and the quality of services provided and how much they appreciate the Borough's involvement and looking at the needs holistically.

Mr. Jones stated his appreciation of the Borough as well. He stated that without the Borough's help those in his care could possibly be homeless.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m. by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Randolph.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Denise L. Rhoads, Staff Assistant