

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
POLICY COMMITTEE - SPECIAL MEETING**

March 24, 2020

4:30 PM ECD Conference Room

City Hall, Second Floor

ATTENDEES: Howard Schmelder (Chair), Commissioners Charles Cyr, Tom Hick (via webex)

STAFF: Justin Malley, Dawn Leger

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairman Howard Schmelder.

II. Allow for any public comment on agenda items.

There was no public comment.

III. The next item was a discussion of the Goals for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The goals reviewed and proposed by the consultants, Milone & MacBroom were revised by Dawn Leger and sent to members of the Policy Committee for their consideration. They are:

- 1) Support access to decent, safe, and affordable housing for Bristol residents.
 - a. By funding the Housing Rehabilitation Program for low/moderate income single and multi-family homeowners for code enforcement upgrades and essential home improvements such as boilers/furnaces, window and roof replacements, that also increase energy efficiency and may help eliminate blight and improve safety; and increasing the health and safety of families with lead testing and abatement when needed.
 - b. By supporting organizations that provide housing and supportive programs for homeless individuals and families, at-risk youth, and people with special needs.
- 2) Support public service programs that advance community needs and focus on youth, the elderly, and special needs populations.
 - a. Encourage health and wellness initiatives such as health services, food distribution, and access to recovery and mental health services.
 - b. Support the expansion of services for neglected, abused children and improved access to physical and mental health facilities for children and youth at-risk, especially those with special needs.
- 3) Support infrastructure and facility improvements, blight reduction, and community revitalization activities, especially in the Opportunity Zone and low/mod income areas of the City.
- 4) Support economic development initiatives that include job training, workforce development, and ESL/GED programs.

On a motion by Charles Cyr, seconded by Tom Hick, the Goals for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan were unanimously approved, and sent to the full ECD Board for action.

Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu joined the meeting shortly thereafter.

- IV. Discuss Proposed Use of Funds for 2020-21 CDBG allocations, and to take any action as necessary. The HUD allocation amounts have been announced, and the City will be receiving \$686,779.

The Policy Committee reviewed its previous discussions about the applications for Public Service and Public Facilities grants, and made some adjustments based on feedback they had requested from staff.

At this point the Mayor was called out of the meeting.

The following table represents the final recommendations of the Policy Committee.

Agency	Amount
Public Service (Limited to 15% of total funds)	
Prudence Crandall - Shelter, counseling	\$ 7,467
Family Resource Centers	\$ 3,000
HRA- Case Manager	\$ 20,000
The Agape House -Warming/Cooling Center	\$ 11,000
Salvation Army Bristol Corps	\$ 7,000
St. Vincent DePaul Homeless Shelter	\$ 25,000
United Way Summer Youth Employment	\$ 4,000
Bristol Boys & Girls Club – Cambridge Park Program	\$ 23,000
Public Facilities (Capital Projects)	
City of Bristol – sidewalks in Opportunity Zone	\$ 50,000
Komanetsky Estates – Congregate housing	\$ 20,000
Disabled American Veterans – ADA accessibility	\$ 25,000
Imagine Nation - Leak repairs	\$ 10,000
New England Carousel Museum – safety lighting	\$ 15,000
ECD Program Administration	
Housing Rehabilitation Program	\$256,584
Planning & Administration (limited to 20% of total)	\$ 99,465
Support Staff	\$110,263
Grand Total	\$686,779

On a motion by Tom Hick, seconded by Charles Cyr, the Policy Committee’s recommendations for CDBG allocations in Year 46, 2020-2021, were approved unanimously. There is a 30-day Public Comment Period from March 30 to April 30, and then the ECD Board may vote on these recommendations at their meeting in May, 2020.

- V. Adjournment

Commissioner Cyr made a motion to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Commissioner Hick seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Leger,
Grants Administrator