

City of Dubuque
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

GOVERNMENTAL BODY: Resilient Community Advisory Commission

DATE: April 4, 2019

TIME: 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Circle Conference Room
Jules Operations and Training Center, 949 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque IA 52001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Boles, Sara Booth, Adam Hoffman, Lalith Jayawickrama, Robin Kennicker, Jake Kohlhaas, Laura Roussell Leah Specht.
Absent: Carrie Lohrmann

STAFF PRESENT: Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator

Chair Leah Specht called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Bell confirmed the meeting was in compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

TEST AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Herrig and Lynn Sutton were in attendance as members of public. Ms. Sutton was present to observe, and Mr. Herrig shared he is interested in the Commission, not as a resident but as a property owner in Dubuque. No additional public comment.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner Kennicker to approve minutes with the amendment of correcting the spelling of Commissioner Kohlhaas's name. Seconded by Commissioner Hoffman. Motion carries.

GOVERNANCE/CO-CHAIR SELECTION: After brief discussion, Commissioner Kennicker offered to serve as co-chair of the Resilient Community Advisory Commission. Commissioner Roussell motions to approve; Commissioner Booth seconds. Motion carries with Commissioner Kennicker abstaining.

COUNCIL GOAL SETTING: Commissioners came up with past successes and items the Commission should focus on in the coming year. Bell will draft all comments and Commission will vote to forward to Council at the May meeting.

SUSTAINABLE DUBUQUE COMMUNITY GRANT UPDATES: Sustainable Dubuque Grant Recommendation Dem Greenz decision: Boles motions to include in recommendation to Council. Roussell seconds. Motion carries - unanimous vote to include in recommendation.

Before voting to move the recommendation to Council, the Commission had a discussion regarding Crescent Community Health Clinic's application, specifically regarding the line, "Individuals who identify as African-Americans diagnosed with hypertension will be given the opportunity to attend class and receive additional support to assist in their disease management." There was concern that discrimination based on race is described in their application. Commission debated how grants are scored and if the process should be changed for future rounds. Discussion ensued. Determined that for future SD grants, discussion would be held during commission meeting, not by a subcommittee.

Boles motions to forward the recommendation to Council with:

A) the addition of Dem Greenz project recommended for funding (per earlier vote) and
B) (contingent upon the decision of the City Attorney regarding Crescent Community Health Center's application) include or exclude Crescent Community Health Center's application from the recommendation.

Commissioner Booth seconded, Commissioner Kennicker abstained (she serves on the board of CCHC), Motion carries unanimously.

Commission additionally requested to include in the recommendation using \$500 of the remaining funds to market the SD grants for the next round. Specifically, the commission would like to focus on renters and underserved populations and potential grantees who have not applied before or do not know about the program. A variety of strategies and ideas were discussed, including direct mailing and boosts on social media.

Commissioner Roussell motions to approve including this in the recommendation; Commissioner Jayawickrama seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT: Received and filed.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICY AT JOTC: Received and filed.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Commissioner Booth shared what the Imagine Dubuque Technical Team is working on - plan to host a mid-June event to kick off and link to other events; they expressed their desire to be ACTION focused - no more ideas and data continues to be an issue, but they are working on mapping STAR Framework to Imagine Dubuque.

Commissioner Boles of the Community Development Advisory Commission will be reviewing FY20 Budget and FY19 budget amendments of Community Development Block Grants funds (CDBG) in the coming months.

Commissioner Kennicker gave Parks and Rec updates - Camp 17 is closed due to flooding; Bunker Hill golf is now open for the season and they are also working on their goals and priorities.

NEXT MEETING: The next commission meeting will occur on Thursday April 4, 2019 at 5:00 pm. The location of the meeting will be at the Jule Operations and Training Center, 949 Kerper Boulevard.

ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Minutes approved by: Leah Specht
Leah Specht, Commission Chair

Prepared by: Gina Bell
Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator