

DATE: Tuesday, March 22, 2016
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Housing and Community Development Department
350 West 6th Street, Suite 312; Dubuque, IA 52001

Chairperson Rick Baumhover called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. following staff assurance of compliance with Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Commissioners Present: Rick Baumhover Amy Eudaley
Anna Fernandes Jill Kedley
Sister Dorothy Schwendinger David Wall

Commissioners Absent: Bob McDonell Coralita Schumaker

Staff Present: Alvin Nash Erica Haugen
Tonya England Scott Koch
Mary Rose Corrigan Jerelyn O'Connor

Public Present: None

Review and Certification of Minutes of January 26, 2016 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Eudaley moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Schwendinger seconded the motion. Roll call. All present in favor

Correspondence/Public Input

None

Old Business

None

New Business

a) Resilient Community Advisory Commission

Mary Rose Corrigan, Public Health Specialist of the City's Health Services, spoke about the idea of a Resilient Community Advisory Commission and requested input from the Commission. She provided the background of the idea of the Commission. Last August, City Council was working on setting their goals when it was decided they wanted to form a Resilient Commission and wanted input; therefore, a process was developed to obtain input. She gave the commissioners two evaluations--demographic and process--to complete. She asked the commissioners the several open-ended questions, including the following:

How would you define resiliency?

What do you think are some of the topics on which this commission can work?

If there was a Commission, how involved would the members of the commission want to be in granting research, community engagement, and evaluation and assessment?

b) Receipt of Draft PHA Annual Plan

Alvin Nash explained the purpose of the PHA Annual Plan. He asked the commissioners to read the draft and address any questions. A special meeting will be held on May 3, 2016 to adopt the final PHA Annual Plan; a quorum will be needed for the adoption. It was recommended that discussion of the PHA Plan be added to the agenda for the April meeting. Janet Walker will highlight the important areas and changes in the Plan and he will have her to create a "cheat sheet" for the Plan for the next meeting.

- c) Discussion of Special Meeting at 4 p.m. on May 3, 2016 to adopt final PHA Annual Plan
Nash spoke about a special meeting that will be held on May 3, 2016 to adopt the final PHA Annual Plan; a quorum will be needed for the adoption.

Reports

- a) Crime/Nuisance Property Report

Scott Koch presented the Nuisance Property Report. He explained that the numbers are down 1.13% from December (1.63%) to January (2.76%). There were 307 arrests December 2015 and 326 arrests in January 2016 in Dubuque County. He went on to explain that with the nuisance properties ordinance 9 properties have been added to the list. There are now a total of 87 properties listed since the start of the ordinance in 2014.

Scott completed 388 background checks in 2015. For 2016, he has completed 262 background checks as of March 22, 2016.

- b) CDBG Advisory Commission Report

In Erica Haugen's CDBG Advisory Commission Report, she stated that the Commission is working with the State of Iowa to get plans, documentation and certifications together for federal funds for the Resiliency Grant. They have also been working on the Annual Action Plan for CDBG that outlines their goals, trends for community needs, and how resources are used to address community needs. City Council held a public hearing during the budget process for the budget portion of the annual plan.

The City will receive an additional \$9,000 allocation for block grant funds; the budget remained the same for CDBG. During the Community Development Advisory Commission input session, they voted to recommend funding for 3 of the large neighborhood grants out of City Manager's Office—newsletter project, the historical Bluff neighborhood—a proposal for a neighborhood garden, and the Valley View Neighborhood Cleanup.

There was discussion about the Resiliency Grant. Nash asked that a presentation on the details of the Resiliency Grant be added to next month's agenda.

- c) Rehab Report

None

d) Neighborhood Services

Jerelyn O'Connor, Neighborhood Division Specialist with the City Manager's Office, spoke about problems with rental properties, nuisance properties and enforcement by the Police Department. The City is offering the Successful Rental Property Management Program for new and newly licensed landlords, which will educate landlords on resources available in the community and help them be in compliance.

The City Council approved the 1st reading of International Property Maintenance Code. (The Council has to go through a total of 3 readings; if approved, it goes into effect July 1, 2016.)

She discussed the small neighborhood grant programs—community gardens, beautification projects, and cleanups.

Information Sharing

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Schwendinger moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wall seconded. Motioned passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Minutes taken by:


Tonya England
Recording Secretary

Respectfully Submitted:


Alvin Nash
Department Director