

JOBS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: April 19, 2021
Place of Meeting: Marion City Hall

Chairman Ratliff called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Present -- Ratliff, Neff, Meade

MINUTES:

Neff made a motion to approve; Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes – Ratliff, Neff, Meade; Nays -- none

MINUTES OF 03/01/2021 APPROVED (3-0)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 1. Hearing CDBG Projects -- discussion only -- applicants (Warr-Cummings)

Miss Warr-Cummings (Regional Planning) explained that this is the block grant. This will be the first time that people can make their presentations to the Jobs and Economic Development Committee. The next step is that they will go before the Regional Planning on 04/28 to make a non-binding recommendation. We will receive \$162,000 to do up to 3 projects. Most of Marion falls under the eligibility of “qualified low and moderate income” families. Most types of projects should meet that criteria. Things downtown and demolition get categorized as something that removes slum and blight. At the May 3rd meeting they would like to have a tentative budget. It can be changed on council floor, but she needs something to publish and get the process started.

Presentations were made, as follows. A copy of the full presentation is available at www.marionohio.us or by contacting Regional Planning or the Council Clerk.

- **Buses to YMCA for Kids** – They are requesting funding to help students get bused to the YMCA by MAT. This is considered a new/expansion project.
- **NIA House** – They are requesting funds to support homeless youth in Marion by establishing a dedicated homeless shelter with supportive services designed specifically for youth. They want funds for renovation of an existing shelter.
- **Broad St SW** – She needs to confirm the cost with city engineers office. This is for a sidewalk between Henry and Uncapher.

- **Fairground SW** – There is a sidewalk that just stops and they would like to complete that sidewalk so residents could walk to stores and service businesses in the area.
- **Founders Park** – They would like funding to support upgrades to park. The current sidewalks are buckling and some foundation issues. They want to add a band shelter and two pavilion type structures. The band shelter will disguise the bus stop and alley. The project is spread out over 4 phases.
- **Lincoln Park** – Proposal is to add basketball court. They had to remove old one because it was damaged.
- **Fire Damaged Structures** – They are requesting funds to help with demolition of fire damaged structures.
- **Downtown Mini-Projects** – Proposal is to do small improvements throughout the downtown “cultural corridor.”

Mr. Ratliff urged others to move quickly if they have other projects that they are interested in applying for grants. There may be options to group similar projects together (one project, two activities).

Other Matters

OTHER BUSINESS:

With no further business to come before this Committee, Ratliff adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Chairman Ratliff

Clerk of Council