

Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee (CDCAC) Meeting
April 5, 2023 6:30 p.m.
Hybrid - [Meeting Recording](#)

Members: Jennifer Bodie, Walter Sargent, Tim Denning, Steven Gallagher, Greg Bramham, Bryan Coleman, Lara Malakoff

Staff: Jennifer Daniels, Caitlin Jones

Lara Malakoff (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:35.

1. February 1 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously with corrections.

2. FY 2024 HUD Annual Action Plan and Budget Recommendations (Action)

Caitlin Jones provided an overview of the FY 2024 HUD Action Plan and budget recommendations. Staff develops these recommendations based on the applications that are submitted through the FY 2023 Community Development Fund Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and the subsequent review conducted by CDCAC.

The County received its final funding allocations for all Community Development Fund sources prior to the County Board's approval of the Action Plan. The final allocations include \$1,340,757 in CDBG, \$861,407 in HOME, \$176,292 in CSBG, \$153,550 in TANF. In addition, an additional \$100,000 in Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF), for a total of \$300,000 which enabled staff to recommend a budget increase for many ongoing programs. In total, 41 programs were recommended for funding (out of a total of 47 applications received)

In terms of next steps, after CDCAC makes a recommendation, staff and the chair will draft a letter of support to be submitted to the County Board. Public comments on the recommendations are being sought at the County Board Public Budget Hearing on March 28, 2023 and the Board will consider the full budget and the Action Plan at the April 22 Board meeting.

One CDCAC member expressed excitement that funding increases were able to be recommended for FY 2024.

Bryan moved, Walter seconded, to recommend approval of the Action Plan.

3. CSBG Updates and Program Priorities for FY 2024, Matt Fitzgerald, Office of Economic Opportunity, Virginia Department of Social Services

Matt Fitzgerald, from the Office of Economic Opportunity at Virginia Department of Social Services joined the meeting to discuss ongoing issues with Community Action Agency (CAA) boards. Since the pandemic, has seen a lot of issues with agencies and boards, so he has been traveling around to discuss opportunities and share information about what is happening around the state. Arlington is one of 6 public CAAs, situated within the local government.

Matt offered the following highlights about the CSBG program:

- The office of Economic Opportunity hopes that the 200% Federal Poverty income limits continue into the coming fiscal years. This allows CAAs to serve a wider range of income-eligible families.
- The concept of developing programs around the “whole family” approach is likely to be an issue into the future.
- Broadband planning and pilot funding is available for CAAs to take advantage of. CAPs can find money for broadband availability but access can be challenging. Broadband planning project is happening through state and an implementation grant will be available soon. Cailin Jones reported that the County did not apply because Arlington is currently undergoing a major broadband study, conducting both a needs assessment and examining various broadband models. The County is considering applying for an implementation grant to do a pilot project.
- The Office of Economic Opportunity has a learning management system called LearnWorlds, that provides trainings to interested members as well as peer groups and ROMA training.
- Another issue that the office has on its radar is Individual Development Accounts – traditionally these accounts offer an 8:1 match, and participants can use the funding on transportation, job supports, childcare. There are some specific requirements to participate in these types of programs.

4. Chair Report:

There are currently four vacancies on the committee, including 1 general interest category, two low- and moderate-income interest vacancies, and a vacancy from the Tenant-landlord Commission.

The chair also reported that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the refurbished lobby of Bozman Government Center.

Finally, Lara reported that Larry Withers, a longtime member of CDCAC and the Housing Commission passed away recently.

5. Staff Report:

CDCAC will be hosting the Community Development tour on May 5 from 6pm-8pm. The tour will be visiting AHC’s Project Discovery at the Gates of Ballston, Culpepper Garden to learn more about Arlington Neighborhood Village and other services offered through Arlington Retirement Housing Corporation, and will conclude with a tour of the Cadence, a recently completed project that was partially funded with CDBG and HOME funding.

6. Member Report:

Nothing to report.

CDCAC chair adjourned the meeting at 7:41.