

THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Greenville, North Carolina

Present:

Alice Brewington
 R. J. Hemby
 Brian Becker

Lovella Perkins
 Latisha Harris
 Craig Rouse

Melissa Grimes
 Howard Conner (Alternate)
 Kandie Smith (City Council Liaison)

Absent:

Alice Brewington
 R. J. Hemby
 Brian Becker

Lovella Perkins
 Latisha Harris
 Craig Rouse

Melissa Grimes
 Howard Conner (Alternate)
 Kandie Smith (City Council Liaison)

Staff:

Merrill Flood
 Sandra Anderson

Gloria Kesler
 Karen Gilkey

Sylvia Brown
 Betty Moseley

Thom Moton

A. Roll Call

Ms. Latisha Harris and Mr. Craig Rouse have requested that they be excused.

B. Approval of meeting minutes from January 13, 2010

Motion was made by Mr. Brian Becker and seconded by Mr. Howard Conner to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Old Business

1. Subrecipient Funding Request Presentations

Ms. Sandra Anderson introduced the agenda item for the Subrecipient Funding Request Presentations.

Ms. Sylvia Brown stated that there were seven (7) nonprofits present to request 2010 – 2011 funding. The Center for Family Violence Program would be requesting two different grants.

The presentations were as follow:

a. Boys & Girls Club

Mr. Jay Farron was representing the Boys & Girls Club. Mr. Farron stated that \$1,800 was needed for the Triple Play. This is an Obesity Prevention Program that focuses on the mind, body and soul. This year round program will teach Portion Control, Activity and Healthy habits to 75 children ages 9 to 11 year olds.

In response to questions and comments from the committee members, Mr. Farron stated the program would include ways for students to include family members at home.

b. Greenville Housing Development Corporation

Ms. Kimberly Moore was representing the Greenville Housing Development Corporation. Ms. Moore stated that \$33,557.00 was needed for the First Home Affordable Housing Program. This program will provide clients with Home Equity Conversion, Mortgage

Counseling, Homebuyers Education Program, Loss Mitigation Counseling, Marketing Outreach Initiatives, Money and Debt Management Programs, Mortgage Delinquency, Default Resolution Counseling, Renters Assistance, Pre and Post Purchase Counseling and services for the homeless.

In response to questions and comments from the committee members, Ms. Moore stated that approximately 10 homebuyers were counseled per day. Also \$8,000.00 of the funds will be used for the Individual Saving Account which is a match saving account for participants in the IDA program. There are currently five (5) Certified Housing Counselors on staff.

c. NC Rural Fund for Development

Mr. Leon Johnson and Ms. Linda McKnight were representing the North Carolina Rural Fund for Development. Mr. Johnson stated that \$5,800.00 was needed for the Housing Counseling Program. The program promotes equal access to resources both socially and economically. Workshops conducted are

- Get the Facts Workshop
- Loan prospector Outreach
- Credit Improvement Counseling
- Financially Fit Counseling
- Small Business Development

In response to committee questions and comments, Ms. McKnight stated that newspaper advertisements, workshops and contacts are the main source for alerting Greenville residents of available assistance. Other funding is through OEO Block Grants. There are currently two (2) Certified Housing Counselors on staff.

d. L.I.F.E. of North Carolina, Inc. STRIVE

Ms. Joyce Jones was representing L.I.F.E. of North Carolina, Inc. STRIVE. Ms. Jones stated that \$28,200.00 was needed for the STRIVE Jobs Re-Entry Program. This program assists non-violent ex-offenders with housing, job training, education, money management and counseling.

In response to committee questions and comments, Ms. Jones stated that L.I.F.E. partners with Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Department of Social Services, Airmark, the City of Greenville, and Pitt County Planning.

e. Greenville Community Shelters, Inc.

Ms. Lynne James was representing the Greenville Community Shelters, Inc. Ms. James stated that \$2,100.00 Renter Readiness Preparation. This program will train clients about maintaining good relationships with landlords, paying rent in a timely fashion, renter's rights, renter's responsibility, financial literacy and completing rental applications. The program will service 20 persons per session. This will be a contract with Greenville Housing Authority for this service.

In response to committee questions and comments, Ms. James stated that the GCS will contract with the Greenville Housing Authority. This program is a one year pilot.

f. Building Hope Community Life Center, Inc.

Mr. Robert Lee and Mr. James Haskins were representing Build Hope Community Life Center, Inc. Mr. Lee stated that \$20,000.00 was needed for the Work Force Development program. This program will teach 12 -13 year olds work ethics and develop skills. Older students will gain summer jobs. Students will be trained in a small business environment.

In response to committee questions and comments, Mr. Lee stated that Building Hope partners with the Greenville Police Department, Pitt County Schools, Certain Hope Ministries, and East Carolina University. Youth will be trained in money management, finance and marketing.

g. EXCEED, Inc.

Mr. Carlton Gay was representing EXCEED, Inc. Mr. Gay stated that \$15,000.00 was needed for the West Greenville Help Centers. This program will conduct training for jobs and educate potential homeowners.

In response to committee questions and comments, Mr. Gay stated that EXCEED, Inc. partners with Season of Hope, North Carolina Initiative, Burney & Burney, Progressive Action & Restoration, and the City of Greenville. EXCEED does not have any Certified Housing Counselors on staff at this time.

h. Center for Family Violence Prevention

Ms. Portia Harper was representing the first funding request for the Center for Family Violence Prevention. Ms. Harper stated that \$25,000.00 was needed for the Catch Program and the Hispanic Outreach Program at the Family Life Center. This program offers a safe haven for children during supervised visitation. Classes for parenting after separation, Counseling after abuse and Abuse Prevention will be taught as well.

In response to committee questions and comments, Ms. Harper stated CFVC partners with the STRIVE, Greenville Police Department, Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Pitt County Courts and Pitt County Schools.

Ms. Catonia Pitt was representing the second funding request for the Center for Family Violence Prevention. Ms. Pitt stated that \$6,025.00 New Directions Employment Training Center. This program will provide employment training, childcare for abused women and teach Hispanic clients English. The program will also offer ten (10) workshops to teach females assertiveness, independence, legal rights, employment and re-entry.

In response to committee questions and comments, Ms. Pitt stated that clients will remain in the Safe House while being trained.

2. Evaluation Process

Ms. Brown reminded the committee that recommendations for funding requests will be given during the March 10th AHLC meeting.

Ms. Anderson stated that City Council will make a final decision in April 2010.

D. New Business

Ms. Kandie Smith was introduced as the new City Council Liaison. She then gave greetings to the committee.

E. Housing Administrator's Report

Ms. Anderson commented on the upcoming workshop by HUD on How to become an Approved Housing Counseling Agency, in Raleigh, NC February 23, 2010 8:30 – 4:00.

February 11, 2010 City Council will hold the first public hearing for the Annual Action Plan.

F. Other

Mr. Conner suggested swapping the City owned new houses in West Greenville with residents for homes that could be rehabilitated and sold.

Ms. Grimes suggested trying the lease purchase program as an option for the eight (8) new City owned homes.

Mr. Hemby stated that the committee needed to be mindful of organizations funding cycles when awarding funding.

Ms. Anderson advised the committee that the total amount of funding to award was expected to be \$115,000.00; however due to a decision in 2008 to award \$30,000.00 a year to the 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness the committee will be awarding approximately \$85,000.00 for the agency requests.

Ms. Anderson reminded the committee of the presentations for the March 10th agenda for Public Facility Improvements.

G. Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Hemby and seconded by Mr. Conner to approve adjournment of the AHLC meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Signature on File

Alice F. Brewington, Chairman

Signature on File

Sandra W. Anderson, Staff Liaison