

**December 18, 2020 Virtual CD Board Meeting Minutes**  
**GoToMeeting (Access Code: 544-569-997)**

**Board Members in attendance:** Cynthia Gubb, Angus Chaney, Jonas Rosenthal, Elizabeth Ruffa, Bruce MacLean, Ken Niemczyk, Gregg Over, and Lisa Sullivan

**Staff Members in attendance:** Josh Hanford, Nathan Cleveland, Cindy Blondin, Patrick Scheld, Julia Connell, Ann Kroll, Maxwell Krieger, James Brady, Juliann Sherman

Cynthia Gubb called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. There were no members of the public in attendance for Public Comment.

**CDBG-CV Implementation Grants**

Patrick provided a synopsis of each of the projects he reviewed to the board and a status of where they are at with their open issues. Ann noted the three Burlington projects still have some open issues, but VCDP staff will be working with Community Economic Development Office (CEDO) to get through that.

**Bennington Coalition for the Homeless** - Subgrant to the Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless to make necessary improvements to the air ventilation system and provide sanitation supplies to their homeless shelter in order to better respond to, prepare for, and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Burlington Health Workforce-LNA certification** - Grant to the City of Burlington to provide training for approximately thirty-five low- and moderate-income individuals in order to expand the pool of health care workers and technicians to respond to the spread of infectious diseases (e.g. coronavirus) by administering vaccines and delivering mental health and other health care services.

**Questions raised by the board:**

Angus wondered the percentage of funding the City of Burlington received from the state's allocation. Cindy said \$400,000 out of \$8.8 million. Cynthia questioned the number of individuals trained if it was 30 or 35 individuals. Patrick said 35.

**Burlington COVID HVAC Improvements** -Grant to the City of Burlington to implement a grant program through the City's Community Economic Development Office (CEDO) to assist businesses and non-profits in improving their ventilation/HVAC systems in order to prevent, respond to, and prepare for the spread of COVID-19.

**Burlington Homeless Warming Center for Winter** -Grant to the City of Burlington to increase and expand services available at a warming shelter for homeless individuals in response to and prevention of COVID-19.

**Questions raised by the board:**

Cynthia asked what the homeless population was in Burlington and when they anticipated opening this facility. Patrick said they are hoping to open on Monday December 21, 2020. Ann said this space is targeted to support the 1% of individuals that are the hardest to house. She said they may have mental health issues, may refuse to be housed, but they may be willing to go to this space and their employees will encourage them to move into better housing. Angus said you cannot get an accurate count of homeless in Vermont right now. He questioned if the layout of this facility supports social distancing and if the City thinks there is still going to be a need with the majority of the homeless being housed in hotels right now. Patrick said anyone that goes to the facility will

receive a warm meal and beverage. Angus said the State is not supporting this type setting right now, he said their typical seasonal shelters are not opening this year. Ann said this is a very big space. Josh thinks the collection the data of who is using this would be very interesting and helpful for the state.

Julia provided a synopsis of the project she reviewed to the board and a status of where it is at with open issues.

**Vergennes Boys and Girls Club COVID Expenses** -Subgrant to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes to reimburse for the necessary cleaning improvements and sanitation supplies required to prepare the space for re-opening in order to prevent and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Angus moved to fund the CDBG-CV grants as presented on the Consent Agenda, Lisa seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 Yes – 0 Abstention – 0 No**

**Cynthia - Yes  
Liz - Yes  
Lisa - Yes  
Jonas - Yes**

**Angus - Yes  
Bruce - Yes  
Ken - Yes  
Gregg - Yes**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>CDBG- CV IG Grant Project Title</b>	<b>Funding Recommendation</b>
Bennington	Bennington Coalition for the Homeless	\$ 14,500
Burlington	Health Workforce-LNA certification	\$139,100
Burlington	COVID HVAC Improvements	\$ 98,440
Burlington	Homeless Warming Center for Winter	\$160,500
Vergennes	Boys and Girls Club COVID Expenses	\$ 9,300

**Nov 5, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Ken made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the Nov 5, 2020 board meeting, Lisa seconded the motion. The motion carried 6 Yes – 2 Abstention - 0 No**

**Cynthia -Yes  
Liz - Yes  
Lisa - Yes  
Jonas - Yes**

**Angus - Yes  
Bruce - Yes  
Ken - Abstained  
Gregg - Abstained**

Liz asked if staff have considered putting a press release to announce the CDBG-CV funds. Ann noted we have sent information out to communities and individuals that have worked with our program. Josh said we have had to be strategic about announcing funding not to cause confusion with all the other funding the state has received that had a specific end date. He said there will be additional press releases about this funding in the new year.

Ann went over the Recovery Housing Program funding the state will be getting an noted staff are currently reaching out to other state agencies and organizations that provide transitional housing for people recovering from addiction.

**Adjourn**

**Ken made a motion to end the meeting, Greg seconded, and Cynthia adjourned the meeting at 10:48 PM.**