

MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Joe Belcher, Amanda Edwards, Brownie Newman

County Staff Present

Jennifer Barnett, Matthew Cable, Donna Cottrell, Eric Hardy, Rachael Nygaard, Nate Pennington, Amanda Stratton

Discussion

- Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2019 meeting as presented and the motion passed 2-0.
- Matthew Cable revisited the Buncombe County HOME match funding options, including staff recommended criteria for funding of a project.
 - Existing budget for the match is \$123,214 for FY2019, including \$48,214 of prior year program income and unused HOME program match.
 - Staff provided two options for project funding using the funds budgeted for the match.
 - Commissioner Belcher motioned to take option 1 as a recommendation to the full Board of Commissioners and the motion passed 3-0.
 - Option 1 included \$87,908 to Workforce Homestead, Inc. for the Jasper project and \$35,306 to Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity for the Brevard Road project.
- Homeward Bound presented an overview of the Asheville-Buncombe House Project.
 - Homeward Bound is currently working on solidifying cost estimates for the project. They requested a commitment from the County for a \$2.75M capital grant in FY20-21. They indicated that it could be drawn down over 3 years.
 - Feedback was provided on the proposed floorplan for individual units.
 - The Committee agreed that there is a desire to support a project focused on addressing chronic homelessness.
 - The Committee voted 3-0 to support the concept of the proposal, with the caveat that there is no FY20 budget impact. They would like to work in collaboration with the City of Asheville on funding decisions. The Committee agreed to consider the plan in more detail in October.
- Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity was invited to the table to discuss the Old Haywood Road Phase I funding request.
 - The Committee agreed to support the project with \$680,800 with a Downpayment Assistance Loan through the Affordable Housing Services Program in FY20.
 - This was a reduction from AAHH's original request by \$88,155. The Committee agreed to recommend a reduction of the FY20 budget for the Affordable Housing Services Program by that amount.

New Business

- The Committee agreed to keep their meetings on the third Tuesday of the month.
- If the Board of Commissioners' pre-meeting is moved to the afternoon, they will move this meeting to occur ahead of the pre-meeting. Otherwise, it will remain at 2:30.

Public Comment

- Greg Borom, Children First, asked clarifying questions about the policy that places a \$20,000/unit cap on loans for downpayment assistance and about by how much will the budget would be reduced because of AAHH's request reduction.
- Laura Taylor, realtor, shared a desire to see the Committee's discussion be more about innovative projects that are outside of the box and also encouraged diversity in the room during Committee meetings.

Meeting Materials

- April 16, 2019 Minutes

Next Meeting

- June 18, 2019, 2:30-4:00pm at 200 College Street, Ground Floor Conference Room