



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
Community Development Board - Meeting Minutes

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Regular Meeting of the Community Development Board
August 2, 2022

Board Members Present: Rebecca Noell, Jim Corson, Shane Noble, Joe Stockburger, Katrina Kruger

Board Members Excused: Jessica Schmidt, Hannah Olson, Kathleen Candelaria

Absent: Bret Rutherford

City Council Representative: Denise Joy

Staff Present: Brenda Beckett, Dina Harmon, Wyeth Friday, Tam Rodier

Welcome / Introductions / Announcements: The Community Development (CD) Board met in the 6th Floor Conference Room of the Miller Building. Board Chair Rebecca Noell called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00pm.

Public Comment: None.

Meeting Minutes: Board member Jim Corson moved to approve June minutes as written and distributed. Board member Shane Noble seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion unanimously approved.

AmeriCorps VISTA Presentation: VISTA Leader Kendyl Robertson shared the results of her efforts over the past several months. As part of her "legacy project," she conducted interviews with Billings Metro VISTA Project (BMVP) alums, VISTA supervisors, and community leaders. She asked each what the BMVP project has meant to them, to their organization, and to the Billings community. She showed a short segment of the roughly 30-minute video and asked for feedback. CD Board members expressed excitement about the video and said they appreciated the variety of interviewees and their comments. A Board member suggested it might be aired on Community Channel 7. Kendyl responded she would seek to make that happen.

Staff Reports:

- **First Time Home Buyer Program (FTHB):** Dina reported that closings have slowed, but are still happening. Payoff requests and loan repayments have not slowed down.
- **Affordable Housing Development Program:** Dina stated she received three inquiries about the program; one nonprofit and two development groups. She provided each with program information and applications and answered their questions.
- **Housing Rehabilitation:** The program remains on hold. No new applications were received in June or July.
- **Foreclosure Acquisition / Housing Rehabilitation Program:** Tam said she drafted a new Invitation for Bids for a modular home to be placed on the Steffanich property. Public advertisements ran three times in July. Sealed bids are due August 16.
- **CDBG-CV:** Tam reported on the current status of each grant, beneficiaries served (handout provided), and amount expended / remaining. She also distributed a handout showing specific details regarding each park improvement project.
- **Billings-Metro VISTA Project (B-MVP):** Three VISTA Members have been confirmed for service placement starting on August 15th; copies of the incoming VISTA bios and the On-Site Orientation & Training Schedule were distributed. Staff will begin recruiting for unfilled VISTA positions that will begin in January 2023.

- **HUD:** Brenda said a call has been scheduled with the City's HUD representative to discuss the Annual Action Plan submittal. She also noted she plans to submit the CAPER early this year, by September 12, because she will be out of the office for an extended period beginning in October.

Neighborhood Concerns & Happenings: A Board Member asked if there was a report on the Governor's Housing Task Force. Wyeth said he is tuning in when he can and gave a brief verbal report on the types of things that have been discussed so far. Board members are welcome to visit [Housing Task Force | Montana DEQ \(mt.gov\)](https://deq.mt.gov/Housing-Task-Force) to learn more about the process, watch recordings, etc.

Next Meeting: Board Chair Rebecca Noell adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:00pm. The next regular meeting will be held on September 6, 2022.