

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 21, 2017
(RESCHEDULED FROM 2/7/17)**

6:00 P.M.

**PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL
CONFERENCE ROOM A**

Present: Chair Lynne Langley, Jonathan Sandberg, Hannah Dahlgren, Alison Hamilton,
Judy Bunnell

Absent: Dani Rooney, Jamie Baker

Staff: Elise Annunziata, Community Development Coordinator

Ms. Langley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The public hearing was opened. Martha Stone, Executive Director of Cross Roads House, was the only public in attendance.

Ms. Annunziata presented an overview of the CDBG Program and Community Development work undertaken in FY 16-017.

Public Comment: Ms. Stone provided information about the needs and demands on the emergency shelter, noting that there has been an uptick in the number of persons seeking shelter. The shelter has a few nights when it operates at full capacity, however, there have been examples of shelter clients who have found permanent housing. Ms. Stone noted that the lack of affordable housing options in the City of Portsmouth have contributed to the longer stays at the shelter.

Cross Roads House, along with other homelessness services providers have begun providing additional “wrap around services” to support newly exited (from shelter) individuals and families as a means to reduce recidivism. The effort has had positive affects in seeing a slight reduction in the number of persons returning to shelter after exit to housing.

The public hearing was closed.

No additional committee business was raised.

The next two meetings will consist of presentations to the CAC by public service agencies on March 7th and March 9th.

The meeting was adjourned.