

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

**6:00 P.M.**

**PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL  
CONFERENCE ROOM A**

Present: Hannah Dahlgren, Jonathan Sandberg, Judy Bunnell, Marie Cowgill, Alison Hamilton, Lynne Langley, Jan Phelps

Absent:

Staff: Elise Annunziata, Community Development Coordinator

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Chair Hannah Dahlgren called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of January 17<sup>th</sup> CAC meeting were approved.

The public hearing was opened, by the Chair.

Ms. Annunziata presented an overview of the CDBG Program and Community Development work currently being undertaken in FY 19. Major projects and activities include: public service agency social services programs, future senior recreation center design and asbestos abatement, playground improvements at Gosling Meadows and Wamesit Place and Rock Street Park rehabilitation.

Public Comment for Community Needs in FY 20 Action Plan:

**Craig Welch, Executive Director of Portsmouth Housing Authority:** Thanked CAC and Portsmouth CDBG Program for support. Mr. Welch discussed PHA's real estate portfolio, including 605 apartments and 11 properties. There are still 500 or more persons on the waitlist for Section 8 vouchers, so affordable housing is still a significant challenge. He discussed the possibility of project to add units and density at Gosling Meadows, which currently has 124 units, and a new partnership with Seacoast Community School for early childhood preschool there. Other needs at Gosling Meadows include a smaller attached pre-school area and kitchen updates. He also talked about the need for transportation and micro transit; renewable energy projects and natural gas conversion at Betty's Dream housing. Mr. Welch provided a summary of the 160 Court Street project to add 64 units of permanent affordable housing to the stock. The goal is urban infill, smart design and additional affordable units.

Next, Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Coordinator with the City: Thanked CAC and CDBP Program for funding the future new senior center's design and engineering project, and the asbestos abatement of the former Doble US Army Reserve Center. She mentioned that the senior recreation facility will feature a modern design and support features that will grow with senior programming and other needs. She mentioned that the process included public input sessions and discussed the possible collaboration with youth and youth programming. The intergenerational model is currently working on a small scale, and she hopes to improve on that collaboration and opportunity.

After receiving no further requests for public comment, Ms. Dahlgren closed the public hearing.

Ms. Annunziata notified the committee that HUD does not yet have a budget for the upcoming FY 20 program year, and that budget and annual action plan would continue on schedule unless otherwise notified by HUD.

The next two meetings will consist of presentations to the CAC by public service agencies on March 14<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.m.