

Attendees/Organizations Represented (see attached sign-in sheet):

Laura Welter, Safe Passage Family Resource Center
Paul Davis, Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center (MCHC)
Johanna Jensen, Community Member
Dina Rogers, Business Owner
Kristy Tanguay, Parents and Friends
Kelci Parks, Advocate
Junice Gleason, Footlighters
Jeanette Colombi, Business Owner
Jennifer Owen, Special Projects Manager, City of Fort Bragg
Natalie Gregory, Grant Assistant, City of Fort Bragg

Discussion:

1. **Introductions:** each participant provided introductions and general areas of interest.
2. **Handouts:** Jennifer Owen provided review of agenda items and handouts (see agenda with list of handouts).
3. **Anticipated NOFA timeline:** Jennifer Owen explained CDBG "SuperNOFA" process. She also explained that it has been announced that the NOFA will be released later than usual, possibly late January 2016; and the application deadline, usually around April 1, would be pushed back as well, possibly to late April 2016.
4. **Brief explanation of CDBG program:** Jennifer Owen provided overview and referred attendees to the HCD website (listed on agendas and handouts) for more information. Jennifer Owen discussed some of the regulations of CDBG funds to increase participants understanding. She reviewed expected SuperNOFA application opportunities based on the 2015 NOFA, which is expected to be similar to the 2016 NOFA. She also explained Supplemental Activities funding and opportunities to fund smaller projects with this funding.
5. **Suggestions about possible uses of funds:** attendees were asked to present their areas of need.
 - a. **Footlighters:** Junice Gleason proposed the rehabilitation of the rear of the current Footlighters building, comprising approximately 2000 sq. ft. that Footlighters would like to use to open as a community center. This community center would be available for community members or groups to host meetings, events or classes. Junice stated that she has spoken to more than 20 entities that are interested in this project.
 - Jennifer Owen noted that to make this an eligible project Footlighters must be primarily serving the Low-Moderate population. Also, in order to be competitive, the project must prove its need/problem and sustainability.
 - b. **Parents and Friends:** Kristy Tanguay discussed the need to fund the ADA-compliant, concrete ramps at their new location on Chestnut Street. She stated that these would provide additional emergency exits so Parents and Friends clients can quickly leave the building. Kristy Tanguay also stated the need a 13 seat ADA van.
 - Jennifer Owen stated that projects like the proposed ramp project make good Supplemental Activities. Jennifer Owen also suggested the Kristy Tanguay inquire about old law enforcement vehicles no longer being used at the Police Department or Sherriff's office.

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- c. **Safe Passage:** Laura Welter explained the need for an expanded homeless youth facility at the John Diederich Center to include showers and laundry facilities. She acquired a grant to fund architectural plans but does not have funding to build. The proposed addition would include one male bath room with a shower, one female bath room with a shower, one counseling office and a laundry room.
- Jennifer Owen noted that to receive CDBG funding. Safe Passage would need a long-term lease commitment from Fort Bragg USD. Also, if improvements triggered requirements for upgrade in the rest of the facility (such as fire sprinkling or ADA upgrades to existing restrooms), CDBG would only fund improvements related to the youth facility, not other improvements. An alternative could be to place a portable building adjacent to the existing center to house shower, laundry, and counseling space. Jennifer Owen encouraged Laura Welter to contact the FBUSD architect to discuss codes and regulations.
- d. **Community Member:** Johanna Jensen inquired about applicability of CDBG funding for the following activities:
- i. Central Business District (CBD) fire safety and need for assistance with façade improvements.
 - Jennifer Owen explained that CDBG is changing its regulations to make funding available for façade improvement/code compliance programs, but per CDBG staff, the program will not be available until the 2017 NOFA cycle.
 - ii. Use of CDBG funds to provide seed funding for a Local Social Impact Investment Fund (LSIIF) such as the EDFC fund, to be supplemented by a Direct Public Offering.
 - Jennifer Owen stated the EDFC is county wide and can support Mendocino Coast activities. CDBG can provide loan business assistance loan funding for eligible projects but not specifically in the format of the LSIIF, which would focus on certain types of loans.
 - iii. Use of CDBG fund to support Mendocino Coast District Hospital (MCDH).
 - Jennifer noted that the MCDH district, which is much larger than city limits, is not primarily low-moderate income households. Also, the hospital jobs are not primarily low-moderate income jobs, so it's difficult to qualify under either Community Development or Economic Development restrictions around National Benefit. However, in the past, MCHD received funding for an earthquake feasibility study based upon economic importance of the facility for supporting ancillary jobs in the community. CDBG funds could possibly assist if it could be proven that use of funds would result in job retention of primarily low-moderate income jobs.

No other proposals were submitted at the meeting.

6. Questions were addressed as proposals were made.

7. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

ATTEST:



Jennifer Owen
Special Projects Manager