CITY OF LEWISTON

LEWISTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

4th CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING /
CDBG REVIEW COMMITTEE

Monday, March 02, 2026 – 12:00 NOON - 2:00 PM

Lewiston City Building, ***Third Floor Conference Room***

27 Pine Street, Lewiston

Meeting Minutes - Approved

12:25 PM - Call to Order

Committee Members Present: Councilor Joshua Nagine, Abdikadir Negeye, Billie Cook, and Rosanna Boyce.
City Staff Present: Kathryn Ruth and Jackie Sawyer

Committee Members Absent: Linda Scott and Shukri Abdirahman

1) **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**
Billie Cook nominated Rosanna (Rosie) Boyce; Joshua Nagine seconded the nomination. The vote was 4-0; Motion carries.

By consensus, the committee members decided that a Vice-Chairperson is not needed for this committee and decided to forgo an election for that role.

2) **Approval of the February 09, 2026 Meeting Minutes**
Joshua Nagine moved to approve the minutes of February 9, 2026; Billie Cook seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0; Motion carries.

3) **Set CDBG Budget Recommendation for FY27 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027), also known as Federal Fiscal Year 2026 (FFY26)**
The committee reviewed the proposed budget for CDBG. Kathryn Ruth explained each of the line items and the HUD allowable percentages for various budget categories.

   A. **Public Service Agencies**
   After discussion, the Committee decided it would use a weighted scoring system for the Public Agency applications. This weighted score would determine the percentage of requested funding to be allocated to the top 5 or 6 agencies that submitted applications for Public Service funding.

The committee discussed the option of providing funding to 5 or 6 agencies and wanted to make sure that the award amounts were sufficient to be effective but also wanted to divide the funds across as many organizations as possible to cover a wide base of programs and services.

B. **Community Development Staffing Accounts:**
Administration & Planning
Enhanced Code Enforcement
Housing Rehabilitation and Activity Delivery
Economic Development
Ms. Ruth explained each of the line items and the HUD allowable percentages for those categories that require a maximum.

C. Public Improvements/Facilities and Infrastructure
Sunnyside Park Renovations
Lead Grant Match (for Applications)
Housing Rehabilitation (for Applications)
The committee discussed the fact that HUD had advised of the additional requirements for the Community Garden Project, which makes it restrictive as well as time-consuming. HUD had noted that in order to approve the project, the City would need to issue an RFP for services. After discussion, both Lewiston and Auburn would be unable to move forward on this shared project. The staff and Committee liked the project. Ms. Ruth noted that the department is going to look for another source of funding. Committee members suggested AARP and T-Mobile which are good funding sources for small projects. Therefore, by consensus, the Committee decided to not recommend funding for the Community Garden project, however, the City of Lewiston will work to find another funding source for this project if possible. The committee supported the other funding categories for the remaining budget items in this category.

D. Contingency Plan if Funding is cut
If funding is cut, the Committee decided by consensus that funding for the Lead Match and Housing Rehab would be reduced and then the other remaining budget items would be reduced, which have program allocation percentages.

Joshua Nagine made a motion to approve the amended budget as discussed and that once the committee members see the breakdown of funding for 5 agencies versus 6 agencies, they would vote on the total number of agencies to be funded and that would establish the draft budget to be presented to City Council. Abdikadir Negeye seconded the motion. The Vote was 4-0; Motion carries

4) Provide HOME Consortium Program Background
Ms. Ruth provided an explanation about the HOME consortium and budget breakdown for the program as presented to Lewiston by the City of Auburn to meet the HOME regulations.

5) **Discuss FY27 (FFY26) HOME Budget Proposal (including back-up plan if cut)**
Josh Nagine made the motion to accept the HOME Budget proposal and if the budget needs to be reduced, to utilize the program allocation percentages; Rosie Boyce seconded the motion. The Vote is 4-0; Motion carries.

There was a discussion on the formulas utilized for the funding breakdown between Auburn and Lewiston. Ms. Ruth has asked questions about this and will contact Auburn again. Rosie Boyce Seconded. Vote: 4-0. Motion Carries.

6) **Update on the Consolidated Planning Process**
Kathryn Ruth and Jackie Sawyer reported out on the community outreach efforts to collect data and input for the new Consolidated Plan. The staff will work on drafting the new Con Plan to be discussed and shared at the next meeting. The Community surveys are still open, and efforts will be made to continue to share the links for those surveys to collect input from the community before the plan is finalized for the final public hearing. The Marketing Department had been extremely helpful and several avenues of publication to get the word out about the public sessions took place.

7) **Set Remainder of Meeting Schedule**
Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16th, Noon - 2pm
In addition, a meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 30th, Noon - 2pm
The room location is to be determined based on scheduling.

8) **Other Business to come before the Committee**
Councilor Nagine shared that the approval for the upcoming budget cycle is going to be a tough process. There will need to be some budget cuts made.

9) **Adjournment**
Billie Cook made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Rosie Boyce. The vote was 4-0, Motion carries. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Jacqueline Sawyer, Asst. Community Development Manager
Kathryn Ruth, Community Development Manager