

CITY OF LEWISTON
LEWISTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
5th CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING /
CDBG REVIEW COMMITTEE

Monday, March 16, 2026 – 12:00 NOON - 2:00 PM
Lewiston City Building, *First Floor Admin. Conference Room*
27 Pine Street, Lewiston

Minutes - Approved

1) 12:25 PM - Call to Order

Committee Members Present: Abdikadir Negeye, Chairperson Rosanna Boyce, Billie Cooke, Councilor Joshua Nagine, Shukri Abdrahman and Ben Ayer.

Committee Members Absent: none

City Staff Present: Kathryn Ruth and Jackie Sawyer

The Committee welcomed a new member, Ben Ayer, who was recently appointed by the Mayor to fill the spot vacated by former Chairperson Pauline Gudas. It was also noted that Linda Scott stepped down from the committee due to continued timing conflicts with each meeting to date.

2) Approval of the March 02, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Joshua Nagine moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2026 and Billie Cooke seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0-1 (Rosanna Boyce was not present for the vote and Ben Ayer abstained due to not being on the Committee at that time)

3) Discuss the Upcoming FY27 Budget Session

Kathryn Ruth discussed the budget spreadsheet that will be shared with the City Council in their package for the upcoming budget workshops and meetings. The newest version of the spreadsheet shows the breakdown of public agency funds that the committee approved to be awarded at the last meeting. Kathryn noted that she had to add a few dollars due to rounding to pay out the exact 15% cap on the public service agencies. In addition to the budget workshop on March 17, 2026, there will be two public hearings scheduled for April 7, 2026 and May 5, 2026.

4) Update on the Consolidated Planning Process

The first version of the 2026-2030 Consolidated Plan draft was shared with the Committee. Jackie Sawyer explained that the goals for the plan are still aligned with the goals from the 2020-2024 plan, but some of the data to support those goals have

been enhanced in the new plan draft. In addition to similar goals to date for the 2026-2030 plan as provided for in the 2020-2024 plan, data from the 2025 Lewiston Economic Strategy as well as updated statistics and feedback from community meetings indicate an emphasis on the need for (1) affordable and accessible childcare and (2) an increased need for wrap-around support services for low to moderate income individuals and those experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. Ms. Ruth briefly explained a list of trends that were becoming evident from the surveys and meetings with groups/agencies/committees/boards.

Committee members had a lively and interesting discussion about other items that needed to be addressed during the period of the Consolidated Plan. Many committee members expressed interest in seeing more programs to incentivize participation and instill a sense of community within the neighborhoods.

The staff and committee are still working to collect community survey responses and will host a Housing Forum to gather more Lewiston-specific housing data during the last week of March 2026.

Committee members were asked to provide feedback and recommendations by March 23rd so that staff can make edits for a second version to be reviewed and presented at the second Public Hearing on March 30, 2026. This is scheduled for the next Committee meeting beginning at 12:00 noon in the First Floor Admin. Conference Room at City Hall and will be hosted by the Committee at their regular meeting as it will allow for a non-evening venue for those who would like to participate.

5) Set Future Meetings, if needed, past March 30, 2026

On March 30, 2026, the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting will also be a Public Hearing regarding the Consolidated Plan. The meeting will be held at Noon in the First Floor Admin. Conference Room at City Hall. Public Notice is being published in the newspaper, provided to community agencies and advertised on the Lewiston City Website. The Final Draft of the Consolidated Plan will be posted to the City's Website on April 3, 2026 for the Final Public Hearing on May 5, 2026.

6) Other Business to come before the Committee

There was no new Business.

7) Adjournment

Billie Cooke made the motion to adjourn and Shukri Abdrahman seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 with the meeting adjourning at 2:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jacqueline Sawyer, Asst. Community Development Manager
Kathryn Ruth, Community Development Manager