



Lowell City Council

Non-Profit Organizations SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: June 30, 2026
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber, Lowell City Hall, Lowell, Ma. / Zoom (Hybrid)

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Liang, C. McDonough and C. Mercier. Also present were Yovani Baez-Rose (DPD), C. Nuon and C. Juran.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Liang called the meeting to order noting the importance of non-profits in the City.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Liang introduced first item regarding CDBG funding. Ms. Baez-Rose noted prior process and use of RFP for FY27 and the changes made at the federal level regarding funding. Ms. Baez-Rose noted there were many streams of information coming into her department and the guidance was confusing. Ms. Baez-Rose noted City took conservative approach to funding and to protect City from liability. C. McDonough noted concern as funding was used internally by the City and that was not conveyed in prior meetings. Matthew Myers (Non-Profit Alliance) noted accountability both ways and the need for information moving forward. C. Liang must figure out scheme for moving forward. Ms. Baez-Rose noted FY28 would have more solid information, but internal funding would be the priority. C. Liang noted there must be other means to support non-profits. Ms. Baez-Rose noted there are limited resources available, but some assistance can be done by certain grants. C. Liang questioned how non-profits will be handling



FY28. Mr. Myers noted importance of partnering with the City and having open communication. C. McDonough questioned City's approach as compared to other communities. Ms. Baez-Rose noted that there are many approaches used throughout the Commonwealth. C. McDonough noted need for a collaborative effort. Elizabeth Cannon noted AI search indicated Lowell was most conservative approach. Deb Callery noted that the government does not recognize the diversity in the City and that raises issues. Ms. Callery requested City join with group to send letter of support to federal delegation. C. Mercier commented on prior approvals for CDBG funding. C. Mercier noted there must be assistance for these groups in all sorts of fashion. C. Liang noted support can be other than money. Vesna Nuon, as individual, noted changes in funding and a need to plan with non-profits. C. Liang noted goal of transparency.

C. Liang noted second item regarding opioid funding. Mr. Myers noted state regulations are formulating and that a lot of money has not been disbursed. Mr. Nuon indicated that Health Department would handle money from opioid settlement. C. Liang noted need for more information at a future meeting. Belinda Juran, individually, noted monthly meetings would be informative.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. McDonough, seconded by C. Mercier. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk