



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION Community Development Board Meeting Minutes

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Regular Meeting of the Community Development Board August 1, 2017

Board Members Present: Becky Bey, Jim Corson, Rebecca Noell, Joe Stockburger, Patt Leikam, Katrina Kruger, Kathleen Candelaria, Bret Rutherford, Laura Gittings-Carlson

Staff Present: Brenda Beckett, Dina Harmon, Tam Rodier, Sandra Lopez, Wyeth Friday

Welcome / Introductions / Announcements: The Community Development Board met at its regular monthly meeting located in the 6th Floor Conference Room, Miller Building, 2825 3rd Avenue North, Billings, Montana. Board Chair, Becky Bey, called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Public Comment: No public comment was offered.

Meeting Minutes: Board member Jim Corson moved to approve the June meeting minutes and Bret Rutherford seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Staff Reports:

- **Foreclosure Acquisition / Housing Rehabilitation Program:** Staff reported that construction had begun on the recently acquired foreclosure property. One new application was received for the manufactured home repair program in July that was deemed ineligible. One homeowner remains in the process of seeking complete bids and funding remains available to assist up to two homeowners. One new Housing Rehabilitation application was received in July, one home owner has put the project on hold due to health concerns and another project was reactivated and is currently seeking bids. Five other households are currently seeking bids and two home owners have selected their contractors and are in the process of getting all paperwork submitted. Funding remains to assist about five homes.
- **VISTA:** Staff reported July 2016 – 2017 VISTA members finished their service year the week prior. The July 2017 – 2018 VISTA class had arrived and gone through on-site orientation and were already at their respective host sites (see attached). Recruitment for the full year members beginning in August is still progressing.
- **First Time Home Buyer Program:** Staff reported assisting a record number of first time home buyers in the previous fiscal year. Additional information will be provided during the October meeting.

First Time Home Buyer Subordination Request - update: The homeowner requesting loan subordination to prevent foreclosure has garnered City Council approval to proceed. Staff and Board members discussed the next steps and potential precedent.

September Meeting: The Board discussed the responsibilities and duties required for the next meeting. Becky Bey proposed cancelling the September meeting, unless a special session became necessary. After a voice vote, the motion carried.

Neighborhood Concerns and Happenings: Bret Rutherford announced that United Way had begun their donation collection for school materials for children. Becky Bey announced a new app that anyone can use when eating out at restaurants that will make a meal donation to local food charity. Jim announced that the Montana Rescue Mission was going to be working on an assessment of the homeless population with other local organizations.

Laura Gittings-Carlson announced that Montana State University - Billings is currently offering training programs and a grant-writing program utilizing local professionals.

Next Meeting: Becky Bey adjourned the meeting and set the next for October 3rd, 2017.