

**City of Cleveland Heights
Citizens Advisory Committee**

October 16, 2018

Executive Conference Room, Cleveland Heights City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Benson

Vetella Camper

Kim DeNero-Ackroyd

Bradley Eckert

Cory Farmer

Jonathan Goldman

Allison McCallum

Gretchen Mettler

Marian Morton

Donalene Poduska

Brittany Rabb

Steve Titchenal

MEMBERS ABSENT

Christine Henry (exc.)

Robin Koslen (exc.)

Gail Larson (exc.)

Menachem Lubling (exc.)

Michelle Miller

T. Nadas

André Witt

Parker Zabell (exc.)

STAFF PRESENT

Brian Iorio

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stephen Titchenal called the meeting to order and Secretary Cory Farmer called the roll; a quorum was present.

Mr. Iorio gave a brief update regarding the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan. He shared with the CAC that Council has yet to make their final decision regarding funding amounts. He expects Council to make this decision by November and that the City should be ready to submit the plan by the middle of December.

PRESENTATION

Chip Bromley, Cleveland Heights resident and Director of the Ohio Fair Lending, Coalition spoke to the CAC regarding the Community Reinvestment Act and the importance of bank branches. In particular, he spoke about the negative consequences that may result following the close of the Severance Key Bank Branch.

Chip encouraged those interested in organizing in opposition to this closure to contact him.

MINUTES

Minutes of the September 4, 2018 meeting were accepted as presented. Minutes from the September 13, 2018 meeting were approved as amended.

STAFF REPORT

Brian Iorio gave an update on the CDBG budget. He noted the obstacles he may be facing in meeting the timeliness deadline but is hopeful that the deadline will be met. Many expenses had not been posted in the financial system even though he knows that these funds have been spent.

Mr. Iorio also discussed the MBE Report for the period April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018. He noted that there was a higher frequency of MBE's being utilized however the large contracts tend to go to non-MBE's. In particular, the Housing Preservation Office has been making efforts to increase MBE contracting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Iorio explained that due to the Economic Department's need for storefront funds beyond what was recommended by the CAC, they are requesting that \$120,000 of Commercial Revolving Loan Funds be reallocated to the Storefront Renovation Rebate Program (\$50,000), the Storefront Renovation Loan Program (\$50,000) and the Microenterprise Program (\$20,000). Their current Commercial Revolving Loan Program balance is over \$600,000 and it receives approximately \$100,000 per year in program income.

Donalene Poduska pointed out that normally the subcommittee makes a recommendation after the requesting organization submits a request in writing to the CAC. Mr. Iorio asked if those rules could be waived due to the timing of the request and the desire to include this change in the Annual Action Plan for 2019.

Since the request had not been sent to the Commercial Areas Subcommittee for a recommendation, Chairman Titchenal asked the members of the CAC if they agreed to consider the request. The members of the CAC agreed to consider the request without a recommendation. David Benson motioned to approve the request; Kim DeNero-Ackroyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Stephen Titchenal, Chair

Cory Farmer, Secretary