

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Community Development Committee Meeting
May 1, 2006

Members: Diana Colavecchio, Chair

Kathy Hummel

Mary Ellen Pyke

Mrs. Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

The minutes of March 6, 2006 were approved as submitted.

Legislation Considered:

Temp. Ord. A-56

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-56

An ordinance approving the fiscal year 2006 CDBG Annual Action Plan and Program, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Colavecchio read A-56 (second reading). Mrs. Truby said the City is in its third year receiving federal funds under the CDBG program and is committed to the five elements of the program: housing, economic development, infrastructure, planning and administrative. This year, we are at \$719,000 (10% lower than last year). The City is adding \$100,000 from program income, for a total of \$819,000. Mrs. Truby reviewed the progress made during the last two years and provided a synopsis of the 2006 plan. There are plans for a walking path from Karam's Wing Warehouse to Americana Drive.

Mrs. Colavecchio asked why federal funds were reduced. Mrs. Truby said the allocation dropped 10% across the nation.

Mrs. Colavecchio asked how the housing rehab program helps residents. Ms. Rogers said the top priority is emergency items (code violations, plumbing, heating, etc.), followed by deferred maintenance and energy efficiency. Last year, there were 10 emergency households and 7 full rehabs.

Mrs. Pyke asked if the City has a fair housing advocate. Mrs. Truby said the City has Donald Eager & Associates in Columbus.

Mrs. Pyke asked if grants are available only in the Bailey Road area. Mrs. Truby said yes. Current interest rates for the rehab program are as follows: 1) over age 65 or permanently disabled, 0% deferred; 2) working residents who qualify for low income , 5%.

Mrs. Hummel said she would like to review the materials distributed to night before bringing the ordinance out of Committee. Mrs. Truby said the application is due by May 15. Mrs. Colavecchio said the Committee would discuss the ordinance again on May 8, during the regular Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.