

City of Takoma Park, Maryland
GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, June, 11, 2020
TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Zoom Webinar

Members Present: Nadine Bloch, Rachel Branaman, Jay Keller, Susan Rosenblum

Staff Present: Grayce Wiggins, Housing Manager; Jennifer Hale, Grants Coordinator,
Department of Housing and Community Development

Call to Order and Welcome

- Jennifer Hale called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed the members of the Committee. The members of the Committee introduced themselves.

Housekeeping

- Meeting notes opened and Nadine Bloch was selected as the primary note-taker;

Staff Update

- GRC members and staff discussed member recruitment.
 - Jennifer Hale provided a quick recap of efforts to recruit members to the GRC. Jay Keller and Nadine Bloch are in their last year of service. Terms expire on June 30, 2020.
 - The City's Race Equity Forum held on June 11 was mentioned as a source for potential recruits.

Funding Recommendations Presentation

- The Grants Review Committee will go before Council on June 24, 2020 to present funding recommendations for the FY21 Community "Quality of Life" Grants Program.
- Nicole F. and Susan R. volunteer to present on behalf of the GRC with support from City staff
- A first draft of the report and PPT presentation will be provided by Jennifer Hale. A link to the previous year's report was provided to GRC members for review and comment.
- Outreach supporting the recommendations was discussed including emphasizing support of low and moderate-income residents during COVID and the need to support

non-profits working in Takoma Park, many of which have lost funding.

FY21 Community Grants Cycle (80 mins)

- Review of applications and COVID19 Supplementals lead to a development of funding recommendations as follows:

Organization Name	Project Name	Recommended Funding Amount
Historic Takoma, Inc.	Stories from Takoma Park's African American Community	\$10,000
Community Bridges, Inc.	Community Bridges Girls Program	\$5,000
Carpe Diem Arts	Healthy Families: Healthy Communities Project III (HFHC III)	\$8,000
Gandhi Brigade Youth Media	Promoters Program	\$7,000
Docs In Progress	Documentary Dialogue: Takoma Park	\$7,500
Dance Exchange	Dance Exchange Creative Aging Program	\$7,000
Ethiopian Community Center Inc	Bilingual Career and Service Navigator Program	\$10,000
CREATE Arts Center	smARTkids at Takoma Park Elementary School	\$8,000
Upwardly Global	Building a Vibrant Takoma Park Through Immigrant Workforce Integration	\$10,000
Cyberninjaz Global Inc.	Cyberninjaz STEAM Summer Scholarship Program	\$7,500

- Jay Keller - moved to accept funding based on recommendations. Rachel Branaman - seconded Jay's movement to accept funding. Roll call vote: 4 votes yes/ Nadine Bloch was not present for the final vote
- 3 new grantees, 7 returning grantees. 10 recommended for funding and 22 applications.

2) New Business

- Questions for next year:
 - (1) board and staff diversity,
 - (2) organizational culture - length of time staff members of color have been employed, opportunities for advancement, etc.

3) Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM