

MINUTES
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDBGAC)

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

The Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee convened at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Development Conference Room, LaTashia Sherrod presiding.

Committee Members

Present:

LaTashia Sherrod, Chair
Deniese Sheppard, Vice Chair
Sarah McLain
Jim Mustain
Audra Smolinski
Eric Page

Committee Members

Absent:

Tamela Bowie

Staff Members

Present:

Jamey Kirby, Grants Coordinator
Stacie Anaya, Director of Parks
and Recreation

Guest: Chris Crawford

Item 3: The committee heard a presentation from Stacie Anaya, Director of Parks and Recreation on the 10-Minute Walk to a Park Campaign study. The City was awarded an opportunity for national experts from the Urban Land Institute to study the accessibility of our parks with the premise that all residents should have a high-quality park or public green space within a 10-minute walk. 60.4% of our residents meet that criteria now. The study identifies five areas with the lowest accessibility and focused on the “Triangle” area between I-35, St. Hwy. 121 and Corporate Dr. This area overlays with a high density, low-income population that can be assisted with CDBG funds. The study area has over 4,000 residents of whom 71.5% are non-white/Hispanic, 24% under 16 and with a median household income of only \$35,000.

Potential strategies suggested by the study include improving pedestrian access to existing parks, developing new parks, green space and trails, developing pop-up and mobile recreation activities, and continuing public engagement. Timber Creek runs through the study area but developing a trail and amenities would take considerable engineering and funding. There are a few sites in or immediately surrounding the study area where a new park might be developed. Staff will give the committee more details on a funding recommendation to address the study area needs in the Annual Action Plan at its next meeting.