



## ***Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee - Board of Representatives***

Gloria DePina, Chair

Lila Wallace, Vice Chair

# **Committee Minutes**

## **UPDATED**

**Date:** Monday, April 19, 2021  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** This Meeting was held remotely

The Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee met at the above time and place. In attendance were Chair DePina, Vice Chair Wallace and Committee Member Reps Michelson and Palomba. Absent/Excused: Moore, Pratt and Roqueta. Also present: Tara Petrocelli, Community Development; and David Woods, Planning.

Chair DePina called the public hearing to order at 6:32 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">HCD30.049</a>	APPROVAL; Year 47 Budget for the Community Development Block Grant. 03/31/21 – Submitted by Tara Petrocelli 04/08/21 – Approved by Board of Finance	<b>Committee Approved 4-0-0</b>
A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote 4-0-0. (DePina, Wallace, Michelson and Palomba in favor)		
2. <a href="#">HCD30.048</a>	RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to Submit the Year 47 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Program of the City Of Stamford, Connecticut. 03/31/21 – Submitted by Tara Petrocelli	<b>Committee Approved 4-0-0</b>
A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote 4-0-0. (DePina, Wallace, Michelson and Palomba in favor)		
3. <a href="#">HCD30.050</a>	APPROVAL; Changing the Scope of Year 46 City of Stamford Community Development Block Grant for In-house West Side Coordinator to consultant services provided by Fairfield County's Center for Housing Opportunity. 04/12/21 - Submitted by Tara Petrocelli	<b>Committee Approved 3-0-1</b>

Tara Petrocelli explained that this is part of the year 46 CDBG funds and there is a change in the scope of the funds.

Mr. Woods explained that it was difficult to hire someone part-time within the \$50,000 budget. Mr. Woods contacted Christie Stewart, Executive Director of Fairfield County's Center for Housing Opportunity (FCCHO), and asked if they could meet

their goals and come up with a solution for the foreseeable rent crisis and she sent the proposal that's attached. They agreed that this is a better way to go and they can do the monitoring with the person handling this job.

Chair DePina wanted to confirm that the community will be their main focus, not just the Stamford Hospital. Mr. Woods confirmed that this person will be an advocate for the people and businesses on the Westside.

Rep. Wallace asked if someone in this office is bilingual. Mr. Woods stated that the Fairfield County's Center for Housing Opportunity does have multilingual employees.

Rep. Palombo questioned the following:

- Transfers being allowed
- Concerned that this is only for the Westside of Stamford

Tara Petrocelli explained that transfers are allowed as long as it's within the same scope of the application and has an official committee vote.

Mr. Woods stated any area of the City has the opportunity to come to the Land Use Bureau and work with them to possibly have their application submitted for CDBG funds for Board of Representative approval.

Rep. Michelson is concerned that the funds will be given to the Fairfield's County's Center for Housing Opportunity and this was in the economic development line. Also wanted input from the Westside Representatives regarding this matter.

Mr. Woods stated that the FCCHO overall mission is not just housing, they focus on community development enhancements.

Chair DePina states that she is in support of this transfer. She said the constituents have been advocating for support for the Westside.

Vice Chair Wallace states as a representative of the Westside she is in support of this. The Community has contacted them over the last few months, and they have become inundated with concerned constituents with the Westside being overlooked, and with economic development concerns.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote 3-0-1. (DePina, Wallace, and Palomba in favor; Michelson abstained)

Chair DePina adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria DePina, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).