

# MINUTES

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM #215, CHARLESTON COLISEUM AND CONVENTION CENTER

5:00 P. M., FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Mayor Amy Goodwin, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Charleston City American Rescue Plan Act Advisory Committee to order at 5:00p.m., February 9, 2022.

### **Committee Members Present:**

Mayor Amy Goodwin, Chair

Becky Ceperley, Vice Chair

Ben Adams (over Zoom, arrived after approval of previous minutes)

Brent Burton

Caitlin Cook

Mary Beth Hoover

Joe Jenkins

Bobby Reishman

Chad Robinson

### Members Absent:

### Councilmembers Also Present:

Jeanine Faegre (over Zoom)

Jennifer Pharr

Chuck Overstreet

Shannon Snodgrass

A roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

February 9, 2022

## 1. Approval of Previous Minutes –

Councilmember Ceperley motioned to approve the minutes for the previous meeting held on 9-29-2021. Councilmember Jenkins seconded. With no objections, the previous minutes were approved.

Councilmember Ceperley motioned to approve the minutes for the previous meeting held on 1-26-2022. Councilmember Jenkins seconded. With no objections, the previous minutes were approved.

## 2. Introduction –

Mayor Goodwin recapped the current timeline to the Committee:

- January 26, 2022 - The ARPA Committee was presented with recommended applicants, post-examination questions and accompanying answers.
- February 2, 2022 - All City Council Members were provided full access to all submitted ARPA applications. ARPA committee members were reminded, via email, of deadline to submit names for additional questioning.
- February 9, 2022 - The Committee will ask additional questions of applicants whose attendance was requested. A plan for citywide funding allocations will also be presented.
- February 16, 2022 - The ARPA Committee will meet to create their recommended allocation plan which they will propose to full Council for the approval of the ARPA budget at the next City Council Meeting.
- February 22, 2022 - A resolution will be introduced at City Council for the ARPA budget allocations.
- March 7, 2022 - The Finance Committee will consider the ARPA Committee's recommendation. If approved by the Finance Committee, the full Council will consider and vote on the ARPA budget allocations.

## 3. Q&A with Requested Applicants

- Charmco Lofts, Thomas Simons – Councilmember Hoover asked for an overall review of the project. Simons replied that currently their building is unoccupied, and they have been working on financing through the WV Housing Fund for 39 housing units for families in a quality, safe, and desirable downtown neighborhood. Councilmember Ceperley confirmed that there are no government subsidies involved. Mayor Goodwin asked what other similar projects are in West Virginia. Simons replied that there is a similar project in Wheeling. Simons added that there will be 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Councilmember Robinson asked where additional parking for residents would be located. Simons replied that there will be parking in the back, and they are working on getting agreements for other areas.

- Black Women Business Owners – Consandra Leonard – Leonard stated that she started the organization in 2018 for training and education for small business owners. Among some of their projects is an Expo for vendors to grow their business and build a customer base. Councilmember Ceperley confirmed that they have a plan to sustain the staffing costs for the future.
- Hope Community Development – Reverend Matthew J. Watts – Watts stated that they are seeking funding for programming and to renovate the 1039 Central Avenue Building. Councilmember Ceperley confirmed that they have a plan to keep staffing costs sustainable. Mayor Goodwin confirmed that there will be ACT and SAT prep courses available. Councilmember Jenkins confirmed that the project could proceed without the funds.
- Hope for Appalachia - Jason McClanahan – McClanahan stated that the organization has been serving the West Side and surrounding communities for the past 7 years. Programs include a children’s resource program and hope closets in approximately 30 public schools. They are seeking funding for Harbor House, to service pregnant women who are battling addiction, and will be partnering with CAMC. They plan to make the staffing sustainable through grant funding. Mayor Goodwin confirmed that they have established clear commitments with CAMC. Councilmember Cook asked what would happen after the women gave birth. McClanahan replied that counseling will be provided and all options will be available to them.
- Hearts United Sister Talk – Chenelle Coy-Williams – Coy-Williams stated that they are seeking funding for a 12-week interactive program for adolescents. The program, among many things, will help build peer relations and increase self-esteem. Councilmember Ceperley confirmed that they have a plan to sustain staffing expenses after the funds are spent. Mayor Goodwin confirmed that they are currently seeking 501(c)(3) status. Councilmember Jenkins asked if they had been in contact with the Kanawha County Board of Education for assistance with their program. Coy-Williams replied that they have not contacted them directly, but have plans to do so.
- Midian Leadership – Dr. Jeff Biddle – Dr. Biddle stated that they are seeking funding to add 3 additional trauma-informed mentor-coaches, to equip an educational space, kitchen, and exercise room. The program has a heavy emphasis on health and sport activities. He added that their program involves ages 10-25, aiming for mature adult leaders that will reinvest in the community. He added that they have a plan to sustain staffing costs as they additionally partner with AmeriCorps and receive donations. Mayor Goodwin added that it was very helpful to tour the facility and learn about the program by talking to the people and kids there.

- WV Music Hall of Fame – Michael Lipton – Lipton stated that he started the Hall of Fame in 2005 to recognize WV musicians, and to educate the public. There is also a traveling museum that frequently visits schools. They are seeking funds in order to respond to and recover from the impact of the pandemic by being able to meet staffing costs. Lipton added that they sustain staffing costs through donations and sponsors. Councilmember Cook asked how long their agreement was for with the current owners of the mall. Lipton replied that they do not have a written agreement with the mall, but they developed a good tenant relationship with them.
- WV Health Right – Dr. Angie Settle – Dr. Settle stated that they are seeking funds for expansion of their main clinic on the East End and for construction for their West Side building that will include a teaching kitchen, a space for outreach and a multi-purpose teaching room. Dr. Settle added that they are the only clinic in the area that never charges for their services. Their goal is to be a health and wellness hub for the community. They intend to partner with other organizations. Councilmember Ceperley asked how often they used their current kitchen, and Dr. Steele replied they use it 5 days a week, serving about 300 people. Councilmember Cook added that she has toured their facility and was very impressed with their kitchen.
- YWCA – Julie Haden, Debby Weinstein and Margaret Taylor – Haden stated that they are the licensed domestic violence provider for Kanawha, Boone and Clay counties. They are seeking funds to cover the cost associated for a Licensed Therapist to work on-site with shelter residents.

#### 4. City Allocated Recommendations -

Mayor Goodwin stated that all of the applications and recommendations are posted online. Highlights of Mayor Goodwin's presentation:

- March 2021, The American Rescue Plan was passed by U.S. Congress.  
The ARPA Advisory Committee held 5 community input sessions  
April 14, 2021- 1st Meeting in Council Chambers  
April 27, 2021- Kanawha City Community Center  
April 29, 2021- Roosevelt Community Center  
May 4, 2021- George Washington High School  
May 6, 2021- Ball Toyota, Patrick St.  
Virtual suggestions were also available via the City's website  
The ARPA Advisory Committee then met on May 26, 2021 and created an allocation outline that detailed 3 major buckets:  
Economic Recovery, Health & Safe Communities and Investing in Our City's Future

- The American Rescue Plan dollars were specifically dedicated and allocated to get into the communities and fast as possible to help recover from the effects of Covid.
- Federal State Grants that have been secured:
  - FEMA Port Security Grant - approximately \$424K to replace Fire Department Boat – (Awarded 25% match)
  - FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant - \$1.5M to replace Fire Department Ladder Truck – (Pending 10% match)
  - FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant - \$500K to replace exhaust systems in fire stations and purchase PPE – (Pending 10% match)
  - FHWA - RAISE Planning Grant - \$1.75M to design Capital Connector project – Awarded – (No match)
  - National Parks Service Land Water Conservation Fund - Approximately \$971K to turf various fields – (Pending 50% match)
  - National Endowment for the Arts, Our Town Grant, \$50K for Center City Cultural District- (Pending no match)
  - \$75M Special Build Back Better Grant- (hopefully pending)
- Federal Earmarks –
  - US Army Corps of Engineers - \$2.5M to complete streambank stabilization on the Kanawha River from Haddad to Elk River – (Pending Earmark 35% match)
  - Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations, and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Economic Development Administration account, City of Charleston, WV; (Housing Solutions) sponsors Senator Capito and Manchin--\$1 M
  - Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations, Cops Law Enforcement Technologies account, City of Charleston, WV; Eyes & Ears Law Enforcement Safety Project, sponsors Senator Manchin and Capito -- \$750K
  - CJS Appropriations, Office of Justice Programs Byrne; City of Charleston, WV; Charleston Drug Market Intervention Initiative(C-CORE), sponsors Senator Capito and Manchin -- \$300K
  - CJS Appropriations, Office of Justice Programs Byrne; City of Charleston, WV; Crisis Intervention Team, sponsor Senator Capito -- \$1M
  - Labor-Health and Human Services (HHS)-Education, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration account, City of Charleston, WV, for mental health and substance use prevention and treatment services, including outreach and wraparound services, sponsor Senator Capito--\$300K
  - Labor-Health and Human Services (HHS)-Education Appropriations, Employment and Training Administration account, City of Charleston, West Virginia, for Hope Center workforce development initiative, including equipment and curriculum development, sponsors Senator Manchin and Capito-- \$500K

- Allocation Overview –

- Bucket

• Investing in Our City’s Future	\$15,245,278
• Healthy & Safe Communities	\$2,064,165
• Economic Recovery	\$2,000,000
• ARPA Implementation Support	\$1,000,000
• Current Applications	\$11,491,915
• Future Community Projects	\$5,000,000
▪ <b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$36,801,358</b>

- Overview: Investing in Our City’s Future –

- Infrastructure/Broadband Updates Approximately \$7.5 Million
  - Broadband Upgrades - State & County partnerships
  - Citywide streetlight upgrade, etc.
  - Citywide paving and ADA accessibility
  - Clay Center Corridor Lighting Project
  - Capital Connector Project
  - 5 corners crosswalk
  - MacCorkle Ave. streetscaping
  - South Hills Trail Connector Project
  - Sidewalk Improvement Project Fund - City Council approved \$250,000. Fund rules to be created by the Planning Streets & Traffic Committee
  - Athletic Field Turfing & Facility Upgrades - \$6 million
  - Federal & State Grant Matching - \$1.25 Million

- Overview: Healthy & Safe Communities –

- Public Safety Building Study - \$1 Million - Determine best location, the need, and the design. Budget. Shovel ready project for federal grant dollars.
- Youth Job Opportunities - \$250,000. Continuation and expansion of summer youth program. Re-established a 10-year-old stalled summer youth program. Successfully hired more than 40 youth in 2021. Establish business partnerships for career path opportunities.
- City Response Expenses - Approximately \$815,000 - COVID response payroll costs. Vaccination clinics (\$464K). Council approved employee vaccine Incentives. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- Overview: Economic Recovery –

- Charleston Land Reuse Agency (CLRA) - \$1.5 Million - Staffing/Support. Coordinate with Planning/Building Departments for vacant structure registry. Strategic property acquisitions. Community property redevelopment. Property maintenance and promotion.
- Sternwheel Regatta - \$500,000 - Re-establish the Regatta Commission. Provide initial seed funding for Travel, Tourism, and

Entertainment. The Commission will be charged with raising additional money to support the event.

- Overview: Economic Recovery –
  - Future Identifiable Projects - \$5 Million - Respond to future COVID related needs. Additional community lead initiatives. Potential Second round of community applications. Council to approve any use of future fund.

Mayor Goodwin added that this is just one piece of the overall picture. They are asking for input, comments and suggestions from Councilmembers. Mayor Goodwin added that it was great to see that every presenter mentioned working with another organization, and added that all of these plans are interlocked.

Councilmember Reishman motioned to adjourn the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned.