

MINUTES

CITY OF PLACERVILLE  
CANNABIS COMMUNITY BENEFIT COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, March 4th, 2023 - 3:30 P.M.  
TOWN HALL, 549 MAIN STREET, PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by **City Manager Morris** at 3:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Catherine Silvester, Benjamin Hawthorne, Chair  
Annie Aubrey, Chief Joe Wren, City Manager Cleve  
Morris, Community Services Director Terry Zeller  
Members Absent: Vice-Chair Kelly Chiusano  
Staff Present: None  
Public Present: None

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA.**

Adoption of the Agenda was moved by **City Manager Morris** and seconded by **Chief Joe Wren** . **Motion carried 6-0.**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 7,2023.**

Member Silvester requested a correction of her name in Item 7c. Adoption of the corrected minutes was moved by **Member Silvester** and was seconded by **Chief Wren**. **Motion carried 6-0.**

5. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC:**

No comments received.

6. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

No Informational Items were discussed.

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

A. Report on Available Funding:

**City Manager Morris** discussed providing the Commission with monthly updated accounting of the cumulative tax balance available for funding community initiatives and projects.

B. Review List of Potential City Projects

**City Manager Morris** reported to the Committee with general information on City Projects, saying that staff can give opinions of the priority list. **Chair Aubrey** requested to go over the list. **City Manager Morris** reviewed the list with the Committee, pointing out that some projects would be a better fit for the designated funding recommended by the Committee. **City Manager Morris** also mentioned a project that recommended placing historic artifacts along the bump-outs on Main Street, and the reaction from the El Dorado Historic Society that they may not be willing to provide the artifacts due to concerns of damage or theft. There was a discussion between **Chair Aubrey** and **Member Silvester** on placing signage on completed projects recognizing the CCBC, followed by input from **Chief Wren** on working within the existing local and State laws prohibiting marketing of cannabis related items in certain areas of the city. Public comment was made by **Sue Rodman**, who stated that in some areas, service clubs are recognized, and this committee should be able to do the same.

**City Manager Morris** described a past plan for the City to purchase an enclosed trailer with tools for trail maintenance, which would be able to be dropped off at different sites along the trail for volunteers to use for work parties maintaining the trail.

**Chief Wren** added that his department is in need of a replacement vehicle for their SHIELD program volunteers, who do vacation checks and road closures. The Placerville PD is also looking to fund a vehicle for their School Resource Officer, which would ideally be a Jeep to relate and connect to an established Rubicon group of high school students. This has some potential sources of funding, and additional funds from the committee would help get this project done. Chief Joe Wren also provided information on a much-needed outdoor camera replacement project, which has been estimated around \$100K for crime fighting.

**City Manager Morris** wrapped up the project list discussion by asking if the Committee members wanted any refinement of the project list or additional descriptions, and asked members to come up with a 5 to 6 project priority list. **Chair Aubrey** asked if there could be a spreadsheet created that the Committee could vote on to provide a clear consensus. **City Manager Morris** replied that this action could violate the Brown Act, and that any document would need to be voted on in the public meeting venue to stay within the legal framework of the meeting law. **Chair Aubrey** asked for information on the holiday lighting and PD security cameras, and a description of the downtown restroom project. **Member Silvester** liked the idea of the Orchard Hill Park playground replacement, and asked if a placard could recognize the Committee. **Member Hawthorne** was interested in the security cameras for Town Hall and the downtown, stating that his priorities were always security, safety, and projects related to kids, agreeing on the playground replacement also.

**City Manger Morris** asked for there to be a time for public comment on this agenda item. **Sue Rodman** agreed that projects need to be credited to the

committee and suggested that vegetation management should be introduced as an area for Committee funding.

**City Manger Morris** commented that a portion of the funding could be designated for City projects, some funding for other organizations such as the Fire Safe Council. Mark Acuna also requested the Fire Safe Council be considered for funding, that they had their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual public showcase that had around 300 people in attendance. **Mark Acuna** asked for a sum of \$5000 annually for the FSC for grants for low income residents to help them clear their properties of fuels. **Mark Acuna** also commented that last year, the FSC was able to help clear 7 properties. Public comment was then closed.

C. Discussion of Guidelines for Potential Projects/Programs, Application, Committee Solicited, Etc.

**Member Hawthorne** provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee which in summary suggested guidelines and a system for annual funding that capped spending at \$50,000 with the residual funding rolling over for larger cost projects that could be determined on a more long-term basis. **Member Hawthorne** discussed funding and expenditure model that repeats annually, and that the next steps would be to develop this or another model. **Chair Aubrey** asked about using interest-based accounts to grow the funding, and that she would be interested in spending more than the \$50,000 cap suggested in the presentation. **Member Hawthorne** added that as residual adds up, year 5 could be a logical year span for larger projects. **Chief Wren** asked about getting General Fund loans for projects, using accumulated funding from the cannabis tax to pay the General Fund back. **City Manager Morris** commented that what he understood from **Member Hawthorne's** proposal is that a multi-year plan for accumulated funding would allow for more flexible spending, and asked if described business grants in **Member Hawthorne's** proposal would be individual \$5000 grants, or a pool of \$5000 for multiple grants. **Member Hawthorne** replied that the category could be flexible based on need and requests.

**City Manger Morris** discussed the City's existing grant program could be a model for this funding. **Chair Aubrey** stated her concern about setting firm policy for 5 years, citing potential changes in members and priorities and would rather review the list annually, and be more flexible on the types of fund opportunities. **Chief Wren** asked if someone had a good project, could they partner with other groups to solicit matching funding. **Member Silvester** commented that the benefit of a 5-year budget is that the city could count on that accumulated funding. **City Manager Morris** suggested putting together the project list first, then look at incremental financing based on that list.

**Chair Aubrey** stated that next week the Committee should vote on the division of funding between grants and projects. **City Manager Morris** added that scholarships need to be decided also for education and training, with students being part of the mix. **Chair Aubrey** added that she would love to see funding

for seniors in the mix also. **City Manager Morris** stated that staff would provide a menu of choices based on what had been identified in this meeting. **Chair Aubrey** added that the funding types need to be included to build forms to create a process that is auditable.

**City Manager Morris** concluded this item stating that staff would bring back a potential budget for the Committee to review and look at what forms would need to be created for the different funding types. Chair Aubrey closed out item 7c.

D. Process for Selecting Projects/Programs, Application, Committee Solicited, Etc.

**Chair Aubrey** stated that the process would be a main source of discussion for the next Committee meeting. City Manager Morris requested that all members call him with any other projects, and he will include them on the next agenda and refine the agenda.

8. **STAFF AND COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS:**

No communications at this meeting.

9. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** **Chair Aubrey** commented that those items have been covered under item 7D.

10. **NEXT MEETING:** **Chair Aubrey** moved that the next meeting take place April 18, 2023 at 3:30 pm, and follow the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month until they could be spread to monthly or quarterly based on the need to meet and discuss projects. The motion was seconded by **Member Silvester**. Motion passed 6-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned by **Chair Aubrey** at 5:08 pm.