



Rochester City Council

Community Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Chuck Creteau, Chair
Matthew Richardson, Vice Chair
David Herman
Patricia Turner
Rachel Lawrence

Meeting Date:	Thursday February 8, 2024	
Members Present:	Chuck Creteau Matthew Richardson David Herman Patricia Turner Rachel Lawrence	Members Absent: n/a
City Staff Members Present	Kiersten Wright , Community Development Coordinator Todd Marsh , City of Rochester Welfare Director	
Non Staff Present	Susan Rice , Resident and Local Business Owner Chuck Grassie , New Hampshire State Representative for Rochester Kerry Norton , Hope on Haven Hill Tracey Donaldson , Dover Adult Learning Center Tim Bryant , Student with Dover Adult Learning Center Will Arvelo , Executive Director of Cross Roads Matt Wyatt , Rochester Museum of Fine Arts Rad Nichols , Executive Director of COAST Jen Ufkin , Vice President of Operations at Cornerstone VNA John McClain , President of East Rochester Library Association Laurie Duff , Director of Senior Services for Easter Seals John Burns , Executive Director of SOS Recovery Seneca Bernard , Pope Memorial Humane Society	

Call to Order: 6:00pm by Councilor

Roll Call: See attached sheet

PUBLIC INPUT

Councilor Creteau opened up public input.

Susan Rice, resident and local business owner wanted to bring to the committee's attention the concerns that local business owners have regarding the parking downtown, specifically regarding Union

Street parking. Ms. Rice stated that her and a few other local business owners have been privately discussing their concerns regarding the parking updates. There are concerns that some businesses might not be able to stay open with the Union Street parking lot being closed for construction.

Ms. Rice stated that in the last 10 months North Main Street has add 6 to 7 new storefronts, from Bean Me Up, Bartletts, Kessler Insurance, and several others, as well as some businesses opening back up. Ms. Rice noted that this is a true testament to the local business owners that they are willing to invest their time and money for the revitalization of downtown even while there are large construction projects happening in downtown. Rochester Main Street has also been able to bring back some events with he support of local business owners.

Ms. Rice stated that many candidates indicated they were interested in the revitalization of downtown. She expressed her concerns that she does not believe the administration took into consideration the impact the construction at the old Hoffman, building would have on businesses. They were informed that the Saint Elizabeth's school would have parking for construction workers, and that it was never enforced, and that Union Street became a construction parking lot. Ms. Rice claimed that one business owner lost 2/3 of her staff due to the parking issues. Council Creteau inquired if it was for parking and which company it was. Ms. Rice stated she would not be reveal which company it was for privacy reasons.

March of 2023 public input was solicited by the Parking Review Committee. In the summer of 2023, the Congress St was closed for reconstruction and reopend in the fall with no restrictions. Ms. Rice stated that there are numerous parking lots and that there aren't clear and consistent rules throughout the parking throughout the city and wants to know what the future holds.

Summer of 2024 the Union Street lot is slated for updates, Congress Street is up for repairs, the Hoffman Building will be opening with occupancy, and the anticipation of the widening of Route 11. Ms. Rice provided some suggestions for solutions: there is rolling construction phases for Union Street with 8 to 10 spaces assigned to specific businesses and/or employees and as the construction of the lot progresses they more the parking spaces around the construction. Ms Rice noted that downtown is not just Main St but other areas downtown. She wants to know if street parking could be open for customers/businesses from 8am to 8pm and then from 8pm to 8am by permit only it would be residential as currently residents take up a lot of parking spots outside of business. She is concerned metered parking might not be able to

	<p>be enforced as there is currently little enforcement already. One concern is that metered parking will have businesses leave.</p> <p>Councilor Creteau noted they had to stop her for time and asked if any councilors had any questions. Councilor Turner asked Ms. Rice to send her concerns in an email so that they can review it. Councilor Creteau requested that she send it to Kiersten Wright who will distribute it to the committee.</p>
Approval of Minutes- January 29, 2024	Richardson moved to approve, Herman seconded. All approved.
Discussion on Committee's goals with Chuck Grassie	<p>Councilor Creteau introduced Chuck Grassie who is a former City Councilor and was there when this committee was created. The functions of the Community Development Committee can be found under Rules of Order, section 4.19. Councilor Creteau requested Grassie come to explain the committee to help the committee.</p> <p>Mr. Grassie explained that some problem cross boundaries. He had created the committee when the city was transitioning from a Strong Mayor to a City Council/City Manager form of Government. He noted that some of the functions listed, overlap with other groups as some issues cross boundaries.</p> <p>Mr. Grassie mentioned that in the beginning they would meet in businesses and other local organizations. They would have the owner/organization give a presentation and then they would have the meeting. They would also take walks downtown to look at what was going on. He also stated that they would invite folks from Economic Development, the Chamber of Commerce, Rochester Main St, etc., to these meetings as well.</p> <p>One of the main things they would do is ask questions. Some of the questions they asked these groups/business owners were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are you doing? 2. What are you doing? 3. What are you plans for the future? 4. How can we help? <p>Mr. Grassie stated the committee should listen to them and find out what they're doing and how you as a committee can help.</p> <p>Councilor Creteau stated how if businesses are angry and don't feel heard, where do they go?</p> <p>Mr. Grassie went on to discuss how the committee and city council can get involved in different groups to help the community. He noted meeting with groups like The Chamber of Commerce and Rochester Main Street and seeing how the committee and council can help, that is what original intention of the committee was. He also stated that per state policy, the City can have a Human Services Board that takes a look at the needs of the community and inventories the needs. The board would discuss what</p>

	<p>kind of services the community needs, which is where CDBG can come into place for the Public Services portion of CDBG (15% of the CDBG grant per year). Mr. Grassie suggested the committee and city council may want to look into that.</p> <p>Councilor Creteau asked if Mr. Grassie is suggesting making an Ad Hoc committee that would take CDBG decisions out of the committee and allow them to focus on other items. Mr. Grassie suggested not removing it from the committee's oversight but to maybe only report on it every quarter or twice a year. Ms. Wright noted they would reach out to Portsmouth and get insight from them on how they run their Citizens Advisory Committee and CDBG.</p> <p>Councilor Richardson noted that the committee seems to have been watered down to really handle just CDBG and nothing else. Councilor Lawrence noted that if they took CDBG out of the list, it would leave 12 items to discuss, one issue per month.</p>
<p>Meet with Applicants for CDBG and Municipal FY25 Funding</p>	<p>CDBG Funding Requests:</p> <p>Kerry Norton- Hope on Haven Hill- \$5,000 Kerry Norton, Executive Director of Hope On Haven Hill introduced herself and gave background on their organization. They have been open 7 years, mission is to care for pregnant and parenting women with substance use disorders. Adequate treatment, support, housing, anything that can help those with substance use disorders that are looking to make a change in their lives. They offer both in patient and out patient programs and have a Nurse Practitioner, Midwife and several other service providers. They also offer childcare services throughout all their programs, life skill groups, free Thrift Store to both clinics and the community. They have a gym and are the only tobacco free campus (including breaks). They assist roughly 120 women and their children per year. Around 40% are from Rochester. Lots of outreach and care now that they are on Charles St in Rochester, has given them more opportunity to offer more services. They strictly cater to women and children, but have been seeing an increase in men attending some of the outreach programs that are offered. Chuck Creteau noted that this is a great program and has worked with a number a facilities that are similar but that Hope On Haven Hill is doing a great job. Kerry Norton stated she is happy to give a tour to see the programs. Councilor Creteau suggested meeting at there for a future Community Development Committee meeting. Hope on Haven Hill is requesting \$5,000 which would help provide services to those that are uninsured/under insured as they have a good amount of folks there that aren't insured. They don't stall or delay treatment even if they don't have insurance.</p> <p>Tracey Donaldson-DALC-\$5000 Dover Adult Learning Center has been Rochester over 15 years. They moved to the Community Center last year from another facility. The move to the Community Center has allowed them access to more people</p>

who can utilize their services, as there are so many adults who visit HeadStart, health and human services, or even Bud Carlson Academy. They offer HiSet, High School Equivalency Prep, and started to offer Adult Diplomas (taken over Nov of 2023). They have served students all throughout New Hampshire for Adult Diplomas, which comes through NHEP (NH Employment Program). They had a dip before COVID for the HiSET program but they have received an increase. They offer both GED and HiSET, and the plan is students can earn their high school equivalency test with GED or HiSET. DALC also hopes to offer computer classes to the community, but they are having a hard time finding teachers, just hired a Tech Integrator. They hope to offer community enrichment in the future for adults in the future. Tim Bryant, a student through DALC, started last school year on nights last year at the Community Center. He gave his story to the committee and expressed to them how important the services are that DALC has provided. He credits his teachers for helping him get to where he is. He quit school to help his family financially and has tried numerous times to get his diploma. Councilor Creteau inquired what about the program makes it successful. Tim stated that the people there are different. They actually listen to the students and their issues, and the teachers are very encouraging. Councilor Lawrence asked what difference this will do in his life. Mr. Bryant stated that it will just show he could do it. Its given him the confidence he didn't have before.

Todd March from Welfare wanted to point out this program is a longer-term impact. Eventually tomorrow becomes today. Providing this service can help people in the long run by getting better jobs. Ms. Donaldson mentioned having students from 10 years ago reaching out again asking for help to apply for college all because they helped them years ago. They know where to go and who can help.

Cross Roads- Will Arvelo- \$15,000

Will Arvelo introduced himself to the committee. They are the 2nd largest homeless shelter in NH. They service both Rockingham and Strafford counties. Low barrier shelter, aka no eligibility criteria to enter the shelter. Some shelters don't allow those to enter if they are using drugs or drinking. Cross Roads allows them to, so long as they don't do drink or do drugs on the premises. They are predominantly funded from individual donors, about 70% donors. Other 30% is fed, state and local funds. Served over 400 individuals, including men, women, families with small children last year. Average stay is 2 months, but it can be anytime, from a day to up to 2 years. Every case is individualized. They provide case management in addition to all the other services. They work with residents over time to help get them stabilized and to work with other state and local agencies to help wrap around service. 3-5% recidivism rate. Their goal is to get them back into the community and to remain stable. Council Lawrence asked how many folks are Rochester residents, Mr. Arvelo stated that they had 58 residents or 12% of residents. Will stated they're seeing more female and more elderly homeless. Elderly are being ousted out of their homes due to the higher rents and taxes. These are people experiencing homelessness for the first time. Councilor Lawrence asked how the \$400k was spent on the 58 Rochester residents last year. It was for meals, frontline staff, case workers, maintenance, programming services. Councilor Lawrence asked

how they work with the Willand Center. Willand Center and Cross Roads work together to find placement for residents in need. Councilor Creteau inquired how many beds they have at any given time. Cross Roads has space for 112 beds, in the winter it can be stretched if its really bad. hey are also the warming center for Rockingham County. They're open 24/7, 365. They have been around for 40 years.

Todd Marsh stated the city works very closely with Cross Roads. Funding for Cross Roads has been low. Mr. Marsh noted that Portsmouth in their catchment area. Cross Road services a lot of the single residents without kids and that while they may have only housed 58 residents, they have offered support and housing to more than that. It humane and cost effective for the city. The city pays about \$550-600 a week for a motel room. If the city can't place them in shelter, they have to put them in motels and don't get the same benefits they would get from a place like Cross Roads. Councilor Lawrence asked age limit – 18+ unless with family.

Municipal Funding Requests:

Matt Wyatt- Rochester Museum of Fine Arts(RMFA)-\$5,000

Mr Wyatt gave a quick overview of RMFA. Volunteer Cofounder. Started in 2011. All volunteer operated out of the Community Center and Rochester Public Library. There are no plans to have their own building, as they prefer to place they currently are due to the accessibility for residents. Their motto is "Art for Everyone". There are mostly social services next to them. Disenfranchised folks entering the building who don't necessarily want to be there, but they have to be there. This gives an opportunity to go to a museum that they might not have the ability to do so. Having art on the walls can perk you up and can normalize your experience. Part of what they've done is public art, sculptures, murals, they always have stuff on their list. If it's not commissioned from the artist, they're doing it themselves. Mr. Wyatt will repaint the sculptures and murals throughout the year. He grew up in Rochester and he got into this to make a difference in the city. They have shown pieces from Picasso, Andy Warhol, and have even worked with the Eric Carle foundation as well. 90% of their collection is from local artists, they try to have a diverse collection. Not only do they have physical and digital art shows, but they also have art at the Rochester Public Library. They feel they play a part in the revitalization. Mr. Wyatt stated he started by putting art in vacant store fronts to try to liven it up along Main Street. A lot of those store fronts have been filled. Councilor Herman asked if they thought about lending out art to local businesses for window displays. Mr. Wyatt said that if they like the art they can come to the community center, but that they don't have the staff capacity to do that for everyone. He has stated he is happy to connect local businesses with local artists. Kay Wright asked about the mural behind Waypoint, which was done with the help of RMFA. Mr. Wyatt state that when they found out that the artists who did the mural on the back of the Salvation Army wasn't paid, they sent them a check for \$500, because of how much work was put into the project. Mr. Wyatt stated they have also worked with the historic society to get scanned post cards to get blown up and posted on the side of the fire department, as well as a sculpture piece from the Scenic building put in downtown.

Rad Nichols- COAST- \$256,508 (Powerpoint attached to minutes)

Rad Nichols the Executive Director of COAST (Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation) introduced himself to the committee and provided a powerpoint presentation for COAST to provide some facts and numbers. COAST is a non profit and its mission is "To champion and provide customer-focused public transportation with a commitment to excellence in safety and service." Their annual impact on the local economy is estimated at \$31million. They have been providing people in the Greater Seacoast region to work, school, doctors appointments and shopping over 16 million times since 1982. Due to the high housing prices and lack of available rental properties, the distance between economic opportunities (work and education) and the communities where people can afford to live has increased. COAST is essential in connecting the workforce living in more affordable housing and those businesses that employ them. New Hampshire is the 2nd oldest state in the US, and COAST plays a crucial role in helping those seniors maintain their independence. COAST keeps people connected to their communities and the services they rely on for support as they age. COAST Is an essential service provider across the seacoast. This summer COAST was able to hire more bus drivers and was able to get back to their services. They have seen at least at 35% increase in ridership every month. FY25 funding for COAST is going to be different due to the emergency relief funding running out. Some of the solutions they have projected to help with the funding shortfalls are through charitable gaming participation, with plans to have a front door stop there. They also are looking for an increase in State operation funding support, seeking significantly more support from philanthropic organizations/individuals, They're also looking for an increase in municipal and partner financial support (13.8% increase for Rochester. And lastly they're looking to reduce some services. They're asking for over \$256k. Based off the tax rate and other factors it would mean that about \$14 to \$16 of the taxes from resident property would go to COAST. Rochester has consistently provided the funding that COAST has asked for. Todd from Welfare noted that COAST helps the residents, especially those who they see in the Welfare office. It helps residents get to shelters, food, human services. They can't offer shelter to people if they can't get them their. COAST does donate tickets to the Welfare office and others as well.

Jen Ufkin-Cornerstone VNA- \$28,826

Jen Ufkin, the Vice President of Operations at Cornerstone VNA. This is the 111th year. They are an independent non-profit organization and offer 5 different types of programs. Cornerstone works with individuals of all ages, birth to end of life. Homecare program, Life Care, Hospice, nurse practitioner, community presence program. Most of these are in the clients homes. They are mission driven. They have a strong social media presences. Over 20 clinics free of charge for different screenings in different communities. They have a Caregiver Café for those who are caregivers to family. 3rd year in for lymphedema program, swelling in their limbs because of damage to their lymphatic system.. Cornerstone provides expert care. They are also part of the Rochester Mental health Alliance and have a Behavior Health Team. Plans to have trainers will be trained in pediatric mental health. Not included in their request/ask was

uninsured, underinsured and free care for Rochester residents was over \$393k. Councilor Lawrence inquired how free care is determined. Ms. Ufkin explained that they typically provide up to 3 visits but will go up to 5 visits. About 95% of people who apply get it. They're looking for about 10% of their funding needs from Rochester. They work with over 40 communities, but Rochester is #1 of the community. Councilor Lawrence inquired how they are getting referrals and how residents get their services. Councilor Lawrence asked what percent is mental health care, It was noted that its part of a service, but is not typically the primary reason. If its something their providers recognize they may add it.

John McClain- East Rochester Library- \$11,000

John McClain is the president of the board of East Rochester Library. This year is their 139th anniversary. Came into existence before Rochester had a library. They have asked and received both City and CDBG funding in previous years. They established a new board, acquired private funding from donations, grant funding like Steven King Grant, received CDBG funding for repairs to the building including fixing the foundations. Currently they're open on a limited basis, due to funding, but they do have the ability to stay open other days if residents request the use of the space. They have been able to open the Children's House back up after COVID and they get about 8 kids along with their parents for a morning story hour once a month. They have been well received by the public and have seen an increase in number of attendees. They are grateful for any kind of funding or donations they can receive. CDBG funds from this year (FY24) allowed them to get new lighting, and a new hot water heater. The funding amount requested has increased due to the increase in insurance prices, new liability policy this year, increase in other utilities. Councilor Creteau inquired why the building should be kept open; he's aware of the historical aspect of it, but why keep it open. Mr. McClain noted there is not a lot left in East Rochester to do, and this gives children a place to go. Lawrence asked if they considered renting the space out in order to help gain additional funds. John stated they have never looked into it since he's been there, but its possible, they haven't explored it yet. Councilor Lawrence asked if they're part of the Libby system, John explained they don't have that service at this time. They are currently open Mondays and Thursdays, 1pm to 5pm.

Laurie Duff- Easter Seals of NH- \$10,000

Laurie Duff is the Director of Senior Services. EasterSeals has been in NH for almost 90 years. 9 Different lines of businesses, seniors being one of them, children, military, developmentally delayed populations, youth transition programs. Here to talk specifically about senior services. Easter Seals services 300 individuals in their homes and adult day within the county. Of the 300, 40% are from Rochester, so about 120 residents. They service all the communities in Strafford but Middleton. Easter Seals did receive a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services specifically for Homecare staffing. Due to the updates a Champlin Place, the Adult Day Program moved to the Frisbee Memorial campus. They are hoping to open Champlin Place soon (late spring or early summer of 2024). CMS, Medicaid and Medicare, tasked homecare agencies, which includes Easter Seals, to obtain, EVV (electronic visit verification). They are working with the state and fed gov in order to do this, but there is no

federal or state funding for this required update. This year, they started to monitor adults to come to adult day care to assess their level of loneliness, level of depression, their cognitive status and their fall risk. They have seen an improvement within 90 days of the people being there, using evidence based tools to find these results. Some statistics, 99.4% of homecare recipients would recommend EasterSeals, 97% feel they understand their needs, 100% feel they're treated with dignity and respect. In the Adult Day Program 96% of caregivers have noted their overall quality of life improved since their loved one has come to the program. This year they are planning on moving more of their military and veteran care over to their other programs. Any veterans who are living there will be able to bring those services to them. Councilor Creteau asked how they branched out to the Veterans Service as currently they handle Senior Services. The way they are partnering, is that they have a lot of vets in their homecare and Adult Day Program, and that if Rochester provides the funds to EasterSeals part of it will go to the veterans portion of care. Asking for \$10,000 to help defray the cost of uncompensated care. Currently the cost of care is not being met by the forms of funding they have, this would help them provide the services.

John Burns – SOS Recovery-\$46,000

John Burns is the Executive Director for SOS Recovery which is located just behind city hall on Signal St. All of their services are peer based services, no clinical services with the exception of Better Life Partners that provides medications for opioid or alcohol use disorders. They offer traditional recovery as well as harm reduction services out of the centers. On average in Rochester they have 400 to 450 visits per month. These are not unique, some are in there every day, but some are new. So far they're over 200 new people as of January 1st. They wouldn't be shocked if they went over 250 as they originally projected for this fiscal year. They've seen a big surge in the last 3 to 6 months. He believes they've seen the shift from higher numbers in Dover to higher numbers in Rochester as the homeless population is pushed out towards Rochester. As of right now, 80 to 85% of individuals are experiencing homelessness. It used to be lower before they did harm reduction services, but SOS Recovery is the only drop in center in the area. Ms. Wright inquired if they are 18+, Mr. Burns noted they don't advertise that they are 18+ and that if they had someone come to their doors that was 17, they would help them find the right services for them, like Waypoint (who is 12 to 25 year olds). They offer a parenting program, on zoom, which is about managing their recovery with parenting included. It is a peer recovery coaching, 14 week rotating schedule. State wide contract for family support groups. They offer family support groups digitally on zoom usually has 20 -30 people. Invitation to Change which is an evidence based program for family members, mostly parents. They also offer traditional 1-1 recovery resources, like weekly check ins. Since July, 171 intakes with unique participants. This includes Dover, Rochester and Hampton. Over 2200 brief check-ins, over the phone check ins. About 1670 one on one engagement, which allows them to see what resources they currently have and how to further assist them. Currently SOS Recovery supports about 3000 family members across the state. They work with justice system, to help with probation and parole and in the

treatment courts in Strafford, and Rockingham County. They also offer wound care supplies, sterile needles, overdose prevention, including the distribution of over 200 Naloxone kits per month state wide. They provide overdose prevention training. Councilor Creteau noted his experience visiting SOS Recovery center and suggested the rest of the committee also visit to see what they offer. Councilor Lawrence inquired if they didn't get support, would they have to eliminate a full time employee. This would fund a full-time employee, if they didn't receive funding then they'd have to knock it down to part-time which would impact them especially considering how many residents they are now anticipating will use their services. It would decrease the quality and quantity of services.. SOS Recovery works with Willand Center, but also partners during the day for when Willand Center is closed. Todd stated Welfare supports SOS Recovery because of what they do for harm reduction.

Seneca Bernard- Pope Memorial Humane Society- \$5000

Seneca Benard provided an overview of Pope Memorial Human Society. This is the first year they have applied for funding from Rochester. The shelter covers Strafford and most of York county Maine. Rochester is the biggest, making up 18 to 20% of any of the programs. They provide many types of services including, surrenders of animals. They also work with animal control units to pickup strays, which they hold for 7 days. One of their goals is they are trying to make sure animals can stay in their homes. Part of their future plans is to become a low cost clinics to offer services to those that may not be able to afford care for their pets.. By offering a low cost vet clinic, they could avoid situations that may require a resident to surrender their animal and allow the animal to stay within their original home. Another goal is that they want to educate the children of Rochester. They have worked with 3 classrooms, and would like to increase that to 4 classrooms every month. Part of going into the classrooms is it would allow them to educate children on what kind of resources are out there. Adopted out about 20% of pets out to Rochester, 82 cats, dogs and rabbits in the last year. Seniors and veterans fees are waived as they don't want money to be a barrier to be a reason they can't have a pet. They also do spay or neuter clinic for cats which typically costs between \$300 and \$600. They're looking to offer the same clinic for dogs later this year.

Councilor Creteau asked if Welfare has any experience with the Humane Society. Todd stated yes that the homeless population does have cats and dogs, and they need these services. He pointed that that some residents won't go into a shelter because they can't take their cat or dog with them. Mr. Bernard stated they have a Safe Pets Program. They will take in animals in while an unhoused person is getting the services they need and the housing/shelter. Councilor Lawrence asked how the \$5000 would help them. Mr. Bernard explained the funds would go into the general fund to just help them keep their operations going. They have a food share program, where half the people are from Rochester. They can come once a month, and get food for their animals. They are hoping to enlarge the food share program. Mr. Bernard did mention that less and less housing facilities are allowing people to bring their pets, so they are seeing an increase in surrenders from those who are looking to get into housing.

Other Business	<p>Ms. Wright explained that several meeting dates aren't available this year for the conference room and the City Chambers is used on the days that the Committee will be meeting. Matt Wyatt from RMFA offered the use of their space for one or two meeting. Per the Committee, Main Street is a priority at the moment to meet at a location per the committee. They would like to meet at a local business and hear from the businesses.</p> <p>Councilor Creteau suggested to meet with some businesses downtown, and to invite them to meetings. Ms. Wright stated she'd also reach out to Rochester Main Street with the help of Carole from Economic Development, who is the secretary of the board. The goal is to ask:</p> <p>What is it they need?</p> <p>What can the committee do to support them?</p> <p>How is the flow of info going?</p> <p>Councilor Creteau noted we have a lot of people who work hard, but that there isn't a clear way of getting information over to people. What can we as a committee do to streamline so that everyone gets the same thing the same amount of time.</p> <p>The Committee aims to have the April meeting at a local restaurant downtown, and maybe do a tour.</p> <p>Councilor Herman asked if there is a conflict between Main St and Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Wright explained that they offer different services with Rochester Main Street being more Community focused and The Chamber of Commerce being more business focused.</p> <p>Several groups including, SOS Recovery, Waypoint and Hope on Haven Hill are willing to meet with the committee as well and give tours.</p> <p>Councilor Lawrence wanted to know what the plan is for the future of this committee. Councilor Creteau said that one of their goals is to figure out the committee's goals and functions going forward. They are working to further define their goals and functions as listed until 4.19 in the Council Rules of Order.</p> <p>Councilor Lawrence suggested maybe a special meeting/workshop in order to do that. Ms. Wright stated they may have to have a special meeting, she would reach out to Terence about how to go about having a workshop/special meeting for Community Development.</p>

	Councilor Herman stated one of the things he hasn't heard from the social services people is what do we do with all the people that we force out onto the street after 8am until 5pm (at Willand).
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Motion to adjourned made by Councilor Richardson, seconded by Councilor Herman, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm

Next Meeting – Thursday March 14 2024, 6:00 p.m., Cocheco Conference Room, City Hall Annex, 33 Wakefield St.

Topics: Meet with remaining applicants for CDBG and Municipal funding, Vote on funding recommendations, discuss goals of Community Development Committee

Respectfully Submitted by

Kiersten "Kay" Wright, Community Development Coordinator.