



County Council Committee Minutes

Public Health and Human Services Committee May 20, 2019

The Public Health and Human Services Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, May 20, 2019, in County Council Chambers of the County Administrative Office Building. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting was provided in advance to the local news media and other interested parties. The following were in attendance: Honorable Whitney Farr, Chairman; and Honorables Michael Brown and Bob Walker, Committee Members; along with Manning Lynch, Jack Mabry, David Britt, and Roger Nutt, Council Members. Also attending were Cole Alverson, County Administrator, Jim Hipp, Deputy County Administrator; John Harris, County Attorney; and Ginny Dupont, County Attorney.

I.

Honorable Whitney Farr called the meeting to order.

II.

- A. Mr. Kelly Walker, Executive Director, presented information in reference to **Upstate Fatherhood Coalition**. Ms. Julia Sibley-Jones, Director of Development, was also in attendance. (Presentation and handout included in backup) The Upstate Fatherhood Coalition would like to receive funding from Spartanburg County. The Upstate Fatherhood Coalition consists of five components. The components are Healthy Relationships, Parenting, Economic Stability, Men's Health, and Job Development Boot Camp. Since 2002, they have served 5,827 fathers. With their partnership with the Department of Social Services (DSS), last year they helped 210 children to be taken out of foster care in Spartanburg County. The parents went through the Upstate Fatherhood Coalition program which enabled them to learn to be parents and regain their children out of foster care. Their funding through DSS was reduced by 40% this year. They asked County Council to help with the costs of providing the services, so they can maintain throughout at least the end of the year. Until the budget cut, they have been operating out of all nine Counties in the Upstate which include Gaffney, Spartanburg, Greenville, Abbeville, Greenwood, Oconee, Pickens, Laurens and Anderson. No action was taken at this time.

- B. Mr. Erich Chatham, owner, Civitas, LLC, presented information in reference to the **2019-2023 Consolidated Plan for Spartanburg County (CON Plan) and 2019 Annual Action Plan**. (Presentation included in backup) Civitas is a contractor with the County to develop the County's Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is very similar to a Comprehensive Plan. It is an analysis of the community, the community needs, and population. It sets up a plan for how the County is going to utilize the HUD Funds, the CDBG Program, and the HOME Program over the next five-year period. It also includes the Annual Action Plan which allocates funds to specific projects for the 2019 Program Year. The Plan is posted on the County's website for a 30-day Comment Period which ends May 31, 2019. The ConPlan contains five major sections which includes the following: (1) Needs Assessment; (2) Housing Market Analysis; (3) Five-Year Strategic Plan; (4) Annual Action Plan; and (5) Citizen Participation. This year, we are expecting just over \$1.5 million in CDBG Funds and just over \$.5 million in HOME Funds for a total of just over \$2 million. The County has conducted extensive Citizen Participation efforts. From the feedback, Affordable Housing Opportunities; Housing Rehabilitation; Services for Homeless; and Public Services for Low and Moderate Income Households were the primary recommended uses of the funds. Population has increased dramatically since 2000. The number of households has increased as well, and household income has increased dramatically since 2000. Unfortunately, housing costs are outpacing incomes. Priority Needs for the next five years are as follows: (1) Affordable Housing Opportunities; (2) Quality of Life Improvements; and (3) Community Revitalization. After the 30-Day Public Comment Review Period ends May 31, 2019, the Plan will be submitted for HUD's approval. The Program Year starts on July 1, 2019. No action was required.

Meeting adjourned.