

WEAC Minutes

January 14, 2016

CDBG Information Meeting –

We can apply as government entity, insurance waived. Library falls within the NRSA.

Deadline 2/19, if we can get in earlier it can be reviewed.

CDBG comes from HUD. Entitlement communities get funding at city level and hand out at city level. Waltham is an entitlement community.

We apply to Waltham Planning Department. Catherine Cagle reviews application, recommends it to Mayor, goes to another committee, then goes to City Council. Final application goes to HUD. The version that is submitted to HUD is usually approved.

Five priorities. Sustainability is lowest priority, but there won't be a lot of other groups competing for this money.

Capital Improvement Application.

Library is on board.

Our Questions:

DUNS # - corporation? Does the city have #

Can we get an audit quickly? Less than \$100,000 can we bypass procurement process to get an audit? PRF62 energy service companies. Ask Joe Pedulla? Joanne Bisetta might be a good resource. Mel might be able to help.

Required Attachments – what do we need to attach? On p. 2 of application

What are hard and soft costs? Or are soft costs projects like police detail needed for street lights

Has the City received more than \$500,000 in federal funds? Do we answer yes to that question?

Do you have to spend funds in one year – plan for an 11 month project?

Special permits need to know scope of project before can answer special permit question.

Ask Library – have you received CDBG funding. Or Mayor's Office. Is there lead or asbestos in the building?

How much detail do we need on the budget for the application?

Other libraries around have done energy efficiency upgrades – what was their budget? Framingham. Mel has a name from Framingham. Lincoln has done some changes. Kaj can research that

Beth will ask Medford – Alicia about their library

Mel will call Framingham Library person and Kilowatt Hours about an audit

Jillian will ask Joanne about getting audit

Amy will look for other libraries who are advertising their energy efficiency projects.

Kathy will send Kaj list of questions for the group meeting on Jan 20 at 5:30, she may be able to go

Jillian will set up meeting with Amanda for her and Mel to meet on January 26

Kathy will call Joe Pedulla re audit of library

How are going to communicate all this? Email and Google docs

WEAC on January 26 7-9 place TBD. Eileen will find a place

Google docs – file folders? Where does that stand – Mel will check, Kathy will look too

Designate one person to sign CDBG docs, contracts, invoices, change orders etc. – who is that person going to be? Kathy will ask Mayor first, then if there's no answer have Kaj ask Amanda.

Do we need to show anything that proves we're insured by City – question for Amanda

Transportation Advocacy Letter Mel sent in to Transportation Commission before their Dec. 31 2015 deadline.

High School RFP

Bristol Community College has a zero net energy building

Write letter Dr. Eckelson new superintendent after CDBG meeting about net zero energy for new high school.

NSL no longer installing solar, other companies know how to do it better than they do.

Alternative energy suppliers. Mass Energy, Amy uses them. Costs about \$15 more a month for electricity. Support community based renewable energy projects. Local non-profit. Mass Energy Consumers Alliance. Separate from her elec bill. Gets two separate bills. This sounds a bit different than alternative energy suppliers Jillian knows about. Fifteen dollars for family of four based on usage.

Kaj also has alternate supplier. One bill. Distribution charges from Eversource. Supply charges from supplier. Renewable energy run by hedge fund managers. In the same envelope, two bills.

Can go to 100% renewable but won't know where energy is coming from with web pages Jillian provided.

Kathy needs to respond to **Newton Energy Committee** email about energy aggregation.