

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ~ Public Meeting

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Monday July 18, 2005

PRESENT: Commissioners' William Gabler and Raymond Burton. Executive Director Julie Clough and Secretary Jeri Martino.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Cryans

The Commissioners called the Public Hearing to order 10:05 AM

North Country Council ~ Mary Deppe was present along with Michael Coyle, Barbara Loughran and David Weed from the Franconia Children's Center

Ms. Deppe read an informational page regarding the Community Development Block Grant stating that only municipalities, Counties or Unincorporated Places can apply for CDBG funding.

CDBG grants come in four different forms:

- 1.) Community Development Grants, which are both Housing and Public Facilities Grants
- 2.) Economic Development Grants
- 3.) Emergency Grants
- 4.) Feasibility Study Grants

The maximum amount of funding per year for municipalities with a population of under 10,000 are as follows:

Public Facilities	\$500,000
Econ. Development	\$500,000
Emergency Grants	\$50,000
Feasibility Studies	\$12,000 is the maximum for each Feasibility Study, however there is no limit on the number of Studies done by a municipality within a year.

A 50% match is required for Community Facility and Economic Development grants. There are no match requirements for community water/sewer grants, feasibility studies, and emergency grants. However, the project application will score higher if matching funds are committed.

The purpose of CDBG funding is to assist with projects that will provide long-term benefits to "low to moderate-income" citizens. "Low to Moderate-Income" is defined as individuals or members of the community whose income falls at or below the level determined by HUD. It also includes "Special needs groups" that include the elderly, physically handicapped, persons with AIDS, persons with terminal illness, persons with mental illness and people with development difficulties.

To be eligible for CDBG funding it must be shown that at least 51% of the population that will be served by the grant fits one or more of these categories.

Further CDBG objectives are:

Prevention of Blight and Slums

Eliminating conditions, which are serious and immediate threats to public health and safety.

Amount of grant applied for is \$375,000.

Commissioner Burton moved to appoint Executive Director Clough as the certified official signature on all paperwork, which was seconded by Commissioner Gabler. All were in favor.

Michael Coyle gave the Commissioners a brief overview of the Franconia Children's Center project, stating that it will be a two year project. The Center has received \$254,000 in pledges.

Commissioner Burton asked if the center had applied for more funds and Mr. Coyle said no, that they had other money from fund raising and that they may ask for more in the future.

Commissioner Burton praised Ms. Deppe for the terrific work she does preparing and distribution information on groups who are looking for applications.

Ms. Deppe will plan to meet with the Executive Director to sign all the pending paperwork.

Public comments were called for; as no members of the public were present, the Public Hearing was closed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk