

**MINUTES
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TASK FORCE
SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 24, 2022**

Present: Majority Leader Gene Nocera; Pamela Steele; Cynthia Clegg; Rev. Moses Harvill; Rev. Robyn Anderson; Diana Doyle; Kevin Elak; Brianna Skowera; Christina Heckart; Bobby Peterson

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 11:03.

2. Public Comment

None

Cynthia Clegg made a motion to close public comment and Pamela Steele seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Brianna Skowera made a motion to approve minutes of the August 10, 2022 regular meeting and Cynthia Clegg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

A. Presentation by Applicants

i. South Fire District

South Fire District gave a joint presentation with Westfield Fire on potentially getting training and protective equipment necessary to prepare firefighters from the South Fire District to respond effectively and safely to Active Shooter/Hostile Event incidents.

ii. Westfield Fire District

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iii. Middlesex YMCA (Teen Development)

Middlesex YMCA gave a presentation on potentially expanding and enhancing

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their Teen Night program for youth/teens by adding elements/activities to the program roster that can further engage groups that are more diverse. Middlesex YMCA is also looking to collaborate with Middlesex Chamber of Commerce to develop a Youth Mentoring and Empowerment program. The program will target youth age 15.5 to 19 years old with limited work experience with priority given to youth from underserved communities.

B. Discussion of Pending Applications

i. NHCPA Riverbend, LLC

Bobbye explained that NHCPA Riverbend, LLC is looking to collaborate with the city and create a music venue at the old Peterson Oil site. NHCPA asked for \$3.5 million and the working group recommended \$1.5 million. More discussion ensued regarding funding for this project.

Brianna Skowera made a motion to approve funding at \$2.1 million and Gene Nocera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ii. MARC Community Resources

MARC Community Resources asked the task force for \$975,000 to fund their project and the working group recommended \$100,000.

Gene Nocera made a motion to approve at the working group's recommendation of \$100,000 and Pamela Steele seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

iii. A.M. Hart Parenting Consulting, LLC

Bobbye explained the A.M. Hart Parenting Consulting asked for \$50,000 and the working group recommended \$50,000.

Pamela Steele made a motion to approve funding at \$50,000 and Cynthia Clegg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

iv. St. Vincent de Paul Middletown, LLC

Bobbye stated that St. Vincent de Paul is looking to become a long-term warming center and a hygiene center. They are asking for \$1.2 million and the working group recommended \$1 million.

Brianna Skowera made a motion to approve at the working group's recommendation of \$1 million and Gene Nocera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

v. Middletown Racial Justice Coalition

Bobbye explained that the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition is doing great things with the Traverse Square summer enrichment program and has asked the task force for \$96,000. The working group recommended \$96,000.

Rev. Moses Harvill made a motion to approve funding at \$96,000 and Gene Nocera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

vi. Middletown Conn Realty LLC

Middletown Conn Realty LLC has been tabled to the next meeting.

5. Old Business

A. Report of Current Expenses and Balances

Diana Doyle reported on the current expenses and balances. She stated that the only expenditures for ARPA have been the water and sewer projects at \$160,637.15.

B. Report from Water and Sewer

Joe Fazzino was not at the meeting and not able to report on water and sewer.

6. Other

7. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn made by Gene Nocera and seconded by Pamela Steele. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting ended at 12:20p.m.