January 28, 2019

Meeting begins at 12:00 noon or immediately following the MARC Budget & Personnel Committee meeting

MARC Conference Center - 2nd Floor - Heartland Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Meeting
3. VOTE: Approve Submission of a Letter of Intent and Grant Application to the Health Forward Foundation to Support Green Infrastructure Efforts
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn
ISSUE:
VOTE: Approve Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Meeting

BACKGROUND:
The minutes of the December 17, 2019 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the minutes of the December 17, 2019 meeting.
Minutes of Meeting
December 17, 2019
12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan. - MARC Board Chair
Commissioner Jimmy Odom, Cass County, Mo. - MARC Board 1st Vice Chair
Mayor Carol Suter, Gladstone, Mo. - MARC Board Immediate Past Chair
Councilmember Marge Vogt, Olathe, Kan. - MARC Board Past Chair
Councilmember Fred Spears, Overland Park, Kan.
Commissioner Doug Smith, Leavenworth County

STAFF PRESENT
David Warm, Executive Director, and other MARC staff.

CALL TO ORDER
Commissioner Odom called the MARC Community Services Corporation Board of Directors meeting to order at 11:54 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2019 MEETING
MOTION: Mayor Suter moved to approve the meeting minutes of November 26, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marge Vogt. The motion passed.

APPROVE GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY AND THE STANLEY H. DURWOOD FOUNDATION, TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL EARLY LEARNING SYSTEM
MOTION: Councilmember Vogt moved to approve the grant applications. The motion was seconded by Mayor Suter. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

____________________________________
Jimmy Odom, Chair

____________________________________
Date
ISSUE:
VOTE: Approve Submission of a Letter of Intent and Grant Application to the Health Forward Foundation to support Green Infrastructure Efforts

BACKGROUND:
In June 2019, the MARC Board of Directors formally adopted the Green Infrastructure (GI) Framework as a guide to protect, preserve and restore the region’s natural environment by implementing nature-based solutions while meeting community social and economic needs. Throughout 2019 MARC led capacity-building efforts to assist communities in implementing GI Framework recommendations and strategies, by working with partners and stakeholders to develop a GI training concept, GI cost analysis calculator, and provided support for grass roots efforts to transform vacant lots into productive green spaces for neighborhoods.

With the current Health Forward Foundation grant awarded to MARC in 2018, MARC assisted four neighborhoods in the Urban Neighborhood Initiative boundaries, to select 27 vacant lots with potential to strengthen social cohesion and improve the natural environment, leading to better public health outcomes. MARC provided several of the neighborhoods with materials to begin lot transformations. Working with community leaders on this project revealed the need for comprehensive training for volunteers, which led to the development of a GI training concept in partnership with nine non-profit organizations and informed by a resident survey administered by the Center for Neighborhoods. Funding also supported a regional event to convene the general public and municipal staff, to learn more about resources and successful vacant lot initiatives highlighted by efforts in Detroit, Michigan.

The new Health Forward Foundation grant will build upon previous work by supporting efforts to
- Develop a comprehensive program for GI training
- Make the GI cost analysis calculator accessible online to municipal staff and the public for community planning
- Continue engagement of municipal staff, non-profit agencies and neighborhood leaders to support implementation of the recommendations and strategies of the GI Framework

MARC will monitor and evaluate benefits of this work using an evaluation assessment, currently under development, that quantifies the social, economic and environmental benefits of GI policy.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:
A detailed budget will be developed upon Health Forward Foundations acceptance of the letter of intent. The $250,000 request will cover personnel and contractor costs, as well as materials and supplies needed to complete the project.

RECOMMENDATION:
Authorize MARC to submit a letter of intent and grant application to the Health Forward Foundation for $250,000 to support Green Infrastructure projects and authorize the executive director to execute the agreement with the Health Forward Foundation.
STAFF CONTACT:
Tom Jacobs
Alecia Kates