



Strategic Partnership Grants Committee

April 1, 2021
1:00 – 2:30 pm
Virtual Meeting

DRAFT NOTES

Welcome

- Committee Members – Doug, Paul, Liz, Kevin, Chuck, Rebecca, Kim, Annie, Kate
 - County Staff & others – Rachael, Burnett, Sunshine Request

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from March 4, 2021 were unanimously approved by those in attendance (5 approvals; 1 abstain; 3 absent).

Old Business

- Reminder of Grant Review & Meeting Schedule:
 - April 1, 1:00-2:30: Committee meeting
 - April 15, 1:00-2:30 Committee meeting
 - April 29, 1:00-2:30: Possible committee meeting, if needed
 - April 30: Grant recommendations due to Budget Office

New Business

- FY2022 Grant Funding Recommendations
 - Review Scores and Scoring Template – Burnett presented the scoring model for use by committee members to allocate funds including all pertinent information from the committee scores, such as mean score. This template includes the ability to tier projects based on overall scores and also provides summaries of strategic priority. Chuck asked for a minimum and maximum score for each project as well – Burnett will provide that.
 - Funding Scenarios – The committee will need to allocate funding to projects as homework before next meeting using the tool that Burnett provides.
 - A final scoring report will be run Monday morning, using the average of *committee scores* and sent to the committee. Scoring will be due before the next meeting.
 - Kevin motioned to change the ASAP project from ‘environmental stewardship’ to ‘vibrant economy’. Doug seconded. The committee agreed unanimously.

Announcements

- Rachael described that the County is estimated to receive \$50M in federal COVID-19 response funding in the American Rescue Plan Act. These Fiscal Recovery Funds are direct assistance from US Treasury to Buncombe County. This funding has flexibility for what the funds may be used for including “recovering from negative economic impacts”. Guidance will be forthcoming on how to apply to economic recovery. The Commissioners did brainstorm on applying these funds under the Strategic priorities. Commissioners will submit community input and an RFP will likely be created to distribute funds. There has yet to be a decision how the proposals would be reviewed.
- Doug brought up the YMI Cultural Center request of over \$1M, which is larger than our total pot of money to allocate. County Management requested to see how it was scored in this review process.

Meeting materials are posted online at www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants



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County Management could use that information to discuss alternative funding with Commissioners. Liz mentioned that scores were influenced by the amount of the request and total budget amount, and thus the project may not score as well as it would under a larger funding scenario; Rebecca agreed.

- Paul described that similarly maybe the community centers' renovations are something that recovery funds could help.

Next Meeting – April 15, 2021 from 1:00-2:30 pm