

MINUTES
VERNON COMMUNITY FUND GRANT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Committee Member Gaviña led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Leticia Lopez, Chair
Juliet Goff, Vice Chair
Steven Froberg, Committee Member
Michael Gaviña, Committee Member
Mark Gonzalez, Committee Member

ABSENT: James Chang, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Diana Figueroa, Administrative Analyst
Zaynah Moussa, Senior Deputy City Attorney
Lisa Pope, City Clerk
Frances Jemmott, City Consultant
James Hull, City Consultant

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATION

1. **City Administration**
Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grantee Presentation – Echo Center for Non-Violent Education and Parenting

Recommendation:

No action required by the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee. This item is a presentation only.

Sofia Peodoro, Program Manager, Echo Center Representative presented a PowerPoint highlighting the program *Trauma – Informed Non-Violent Parenting*. She discussed the program goal, ECHO Team, services, classes, outcomes, participant reflection and challenges and successes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gonzalez seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following item:

2. **City Clerk**
Approval of Minutes

Recommendation:

Approve minutes for the November 20, 2019 Regular Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Meeting and the December 3, 2019 Special Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Meeting.

GRANT AWARDING

3. **City Administration**
Award of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II Vernon CommUNITY Fund Direct Service Grants

Recommendation:

A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and

B. Award Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grants totaling \$74,400 to the three (3) applicants identified below at the amounts recommended:

1) Applicant: Boyle Heights Youth Football and Cheer Program

- Original Amount Requested: \$20,000
Amount Recommended: \$14,400
Proposed Term: 1 year
- 2) Applicant: LA Family Housing*
Original Amount Requested: \$75,000
Amount Recommended: \$45,000
Proposed Term: 1 year
*Returning Grantee
- 3) Applicant: Libros Schimbros*
Original Amount Requested: \$35,000
Amount Recommended: \$15,000
Proposed Term: 1 year
*Returning Grantee

Fran Jemmott, Jemmott-Rollins Group, summarized the applicants, requested grant amount and recommendation.

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gaviña seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed are exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to Boyle Heights Youth Football and Cheer Program in the amount of \$14,400. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gonzalez seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to LA Family Housing in the amount of \$45,000. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Froberg seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project”

as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to Libros Schimbros in the amount of \$15,000. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

James Hull, Jemmott-Rollins Group, reviewed the transmittal report.

In response to Committee questions, Mr. Hull and Ms. Jemmott explained the applicant pool and rolling application date.

NEW BUSINESS

4. City Administration

Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee Grantmaking Program Recommendations

Recommendation:

A. Find that adopting recommendations of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee for Grantmaking is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project,” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and

B. Discuss the recommended modifications for the Vernon CommUNITY Fund grantmaking program to be effective in Fiscal Year 2020/2021, as proposed by the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Temporary Advisory Committee, and authorize staff to propose the following changes to the Vernon City Council for review and approval: 1) Elimination of Capital Grants; 2) Two meetings per year (vs. four); and 3) Specified grant application deadlines.

Administrative Analyst Figueroa presented the staff report.

In response to Committee questions, Administrative Analyst Figueroa explained the reasoning for proposing to eliminate the capital grants and discussed efforts of obtaining grants for projects within the City, such as Community Development Block Grant funds.

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gaviña seconded a motion to: A. Find that adopting recommendations of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee for Grantmaking is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it

would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Directed staff to present to the City Council the proposed modifications to the Vernon CommUNITY Fund grantmaking program to be effective in Fiscal Year 2020/2021: 1) Elimination of Capital Grants; 2) Two meetings per year (vs. four); and 3) Specified grant application deadlines. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

ORAL REPORTS

Ms. Jemmott provided an update on the Capital Grant Funds, which would be presented to the Committee on May 20, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Lopez adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.



LETICIA LOPEZ, Chair

ATTEST:



LISA POPE, City Clerk
(seal)

