

Documenters

POWERED BY CITY BUREAU & SIGNAL CLEVELAND

Budget & Grants Committee Meeting

Documenter name: Carolyn Cooper

Agency: [Cleveland Community Police Commission](#)

Date: Feb. 12, 2024

[See more about this meeting at Documenters.org](#)

Summary

- The Budget & Grants Committee submitted a formal letter to Council President Blaine Griffin requesting \$150,000 (\$40,000 for software and \$110,000 for a full-time grant administrator/manager's salary and benefits. That person will seek grants for the commission to supplement their funding as well as manage other grants).
- Jason Goodrick, interim executive director, said that if a grantee is unable to spend their own money upfront and receives reimbursement at a later date, the grantee has to “**request a hardship**” from the Budget and Grants Committee and propose to get their funds in advance, based on an agreed (usually quarterly) timeline.
- Goodrick said committee members were facing a challenge because they did not receive any training or mentoring on how to use the city's financial system for their grant work.

Follow-Up Questions

- Should all committee members be required to receive certification in grant writing and grant management/administration?
- Why didn't the committee members receive training, and mentoring, before they were allowed to use the city's [CGI's AMS Advantage](#) financial system?
- Are all of the committee members knowledgeable, and qualified enough, to approve and award grant funding? If so, what qualifications do they possess?

Notes

For additional information, click on the following link: [Cleveland Community Police Commission](#) (CPC).

- **Call to order**

The Budget & Grants Committee meeting began at 6:38 p.m.

● **Attendance**

Commissioners present when the meeting was called to order were:

- Alana Garrett-Ferguson (**chair pro-tem**)
- Piet van Lier

Also in attendance were:

- John Adams (commissioner, co-chair)
- Jason Goodrick, CPC interim executive director

● **Meeting guidelines**

The meeting guidelines were not discussed.

● **Approval of agenda**

van Lier said that the agenda looked fine.

● **Election of new chair**

Both Garrett-Ferguson and van Lier agreed for Garrett-Ferguson to remain the **chair pro-tem** [the person designated to preside in a meeting when the chair cannot attend] during the meeting.

° **Executive director report** °

● **Grant process update**

Goodrick informed the committee that all of the grants were in phases of execution between a CPC representative and the [Cleveland Law Department](#).

“For that process to move forward, a grantee has to complete documents. If they have a board, they have to get a resolution from their board,” he said.

Additionally, Goodrick said that if a grantee is unable to spend their own money upfront and receive reimbursement at a later date, the grantee has to “**request a hardship**” from the Budget and Grants Committee and propose to get their funds in advance, based on an agreed (usually quarterly) timeline.

The committee was informed that the following three contracts had been signed:

- [Cleveland Rape Crisis Center](#)

- [Cleveland Clergy Coalition Inc.](#)
- [Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless](#)

Goodrick said, “Once a contract is in, we manage all of the requests for funding, because they set us up as a new department this year. So, this is the first year that we’ve had access to the city’s financial system ourselves.”

“Unfortunately, it didn’t come with any training, or mentoring, so we are learning [Advantage](#) at the same time we’re trying to do this. So it’s a little bit challenging, to say the least,” he added.

Garrett-Ferguson asked how many grantees indicated that they had a hardship.

Goodrick replied that many of the grantees did so. Furthermore, he explained that committee members could not be “grantees’ attorneys.”

“So, what I’ve told grantees is, just like with any other contract, if you have a problem with a certain provision in this, you need to seek legal counsel. And then negotiate on your behalf,” Goodrick added.

Adams suggested that all grantees receive funds in installments. He said, “When you look at the grantees, they’re all different. So some of the programs are going to need more money in the beginning. Some are going to need a little bit more in the middle. And some are going to need it at the end.”

● ***Grant manager request update***

Garrett-Ferguson asked for an update on hiring a grant manager.

Goodrick replied that two weeks ago, they sent a formal request letter to Council President Blaine Griffin asking that \$150,000 be considered in the upcoming budgetary cycle.

Although Griffin has not yet responded, Council Member Michael Polensek, Safety Committee chair, acknowledged that the request would be considered.

Goodrick said the commission voted to approve \$40,000 for software and \$110,000 for a full-time grant administrator/manager’s salary and benefits. The grant manager will seek grants for the commission to supplement their funding as well as manage other grants.

● **CPC Grants Survey Update**

van Lier suggested that grant surveys be sent out after grantees have received their awarded funds.

● **CPC grants program update**

The **CPC Grants Program** funds Cleveland-based **mediation, restorative justice, and violence prevention programs** that reduce the need for law enforcement activity. Click here for more CPC [Community Grants](#) information.

Next, van Lier said that Commissioner Cait Kennedy had conversations with staff members at the [Cleveland Foundation](#) and the [Gund Foundation](#) to request their feedback, and potential suggestions, on the following:

- The commission's **scoring rubric**—a scoring guide that evaluates specific elements, and expectations, for an assignment
- **Request for proposals** (RFP)—business documents that state, describe, and solicit bids from qualified contractor to complete a project

van Lier said that although they haven't received anything in writing or heard back from either foundation on those requests, the Cleveland Foundation did suggest that the commission do **site visits** and host **question and answer sessions** and **information sessions**.

Furthermore, van Lier mentioned that, with City Council's approval, the commission could give “bigger chunks of money” to the [United Black Fund](#) and [Cleveland Votes](#) to help the commission streamline their grant process and amplify their reach because those organizations are already familiar with doing grant work and they have community connections.

van Lier said the person he talked to at the [Gund Foundation](#) suggested that they contact [Business Volunteers Unlimited](#) if the committee doesn't receive funds to hire a grant manager.

Next, Goodrick said that the committee only had three people—and one of them needed to be appointed the logistics manager for 2024’s program. He added that they needed to “revamp” their **application** and **rubric** for availability on **May 15**.

van Lier told the committee that they had given **Neighborhood Connections** (home of [Neighbor Up](#)) \$50,000 to distribute to their grantees. He suggested talking to City Council about increasing the committee's outsourcing ability.

Goodrick said that in 2023 the committee struggled to get everything out.

Garrett-Ferguson said that grant tiers and micro-grants should be created so that potential grantees can't apply for funds that they are not ready to process.

Goodrick said that committee members had to complete their **conflict-of-interest forms** and that grant applicants would be required to **self-report any conflicts**. He said they should withdraw their application if they know any of the commissioners (whose names will be listed on the application).

Goodrick advised the committee members to personally reach out to their council members and tell them what their committee needs. Also, he stated that all of the commissioners should be present at the **budget meetings** to discuss the importance of their program; their need for \$150,000; why they need more oversight; and how additional funding could help the committee.

You can email clecpc@clevelandohio.gov to learn about future grant opportunities or inquire about additional information.

° ***CPC 2023 community grants–Listing of funded projects*** °

Cleveland Community Police Commission

2023 Community Grants - Listing of Funded Projects

In accordance with Charter Section 115-5, the CPC receives an annual budget for grantmaking to support "community-based violence prevention, restorative-justice, and mediation programs that reduce the need for police activity."

For more information about the CPC community grants program, visit: clecpc.org/community-grants.

Number of Awards: 26

Total Amount Awarded: \$1,080,000

Organization	Project Name	Amount	Section(s) of the Charter fulfilled	Geographic Area
Angelo Miller Foundation	"Save our Future: Boys and Girls Group"	\$30,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence PreventionMediation	Ward 15- Detroit & 65th
Balance Point Studios	"Balance Point Studios"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence Prevention	Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood / Kinsman
Beat the Streets Cleveland	"Beat the Street Cleveland Fall Programming"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence PreventionRestorative Justice	Ward 5 / Slavic Village
Change the Narrative	"S.N.I.T.C.H."	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence PreventionRestorative JusticeMediation	Ward 5 – Central Promise Neighborhood
Cleveland Clergy Coalition	"Get to Work Now!"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence PreventionRestorative Justice	Ward 2 & Ward 7
Cleveland Freedom Project	"Social Justice through S.T.E.A.M. Pipeline Summer Internship Program"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence Prevention	City-wide
Cleveland Rape Crisis Center	"Comprehensive Youth Violence Prevention Programming: Catalysts for Change"	\$30,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence Prevention	City-wide - 8 Recreation Centers
Friend a Felon Corp	"PeaceLink: Connecting Paths to Safer Communities"	\$35,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restorative JusticeMediation	City-wide
FrontLine Services	"Expanding Mediation and Restorative Justice in Cleveland Communities"	\$25,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mediation	City-wide
Ghetto Therapy	"Ghetto Therapy"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mediation	Central-Kinsman
Golden Ciphers Youth Development & Cultural Arts Center	"SESA (I transform My Life (Akan) Rites of Passage Process"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Violence Prevention	Ward 5

Green Movement Glenville	"Green Brigade Glenville"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention • Restorative Justice 	Ward 10 - Glenville High School and Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Kingdom Alliance	"Outraged"	\$40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention • Restorative Justice • Mediation 	City-wide
LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland	"School-based Violence Prevention Programming for LGBTQ+ Youth at CMSD"	\$40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	Ward 15 - 6705 Detroit Avenue
Love Train Ministries	"Ladies & Gentlemen on the Rise"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	City-wide
Men and Women of Central	"MWC Community Expansion Grant"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	Central
Neighborhood Connections	"Neighbor Up Action Grants and Peer Support Network"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention • Restorative Justice • Mediation 	City-wide
Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH)	"Community PeaceBuilders: Creating Safer Spaces with Street Outreach"	\$15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	Downtown
Prolific Achievers Academy	"Prolific Oxygen Dome"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention • Restorative Justice • Mediation 	Central
Renounce Denounce Gang Intervention Program	"Making our Communities Safer by Saving our Youth"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	City-wide
Reverse Ride-Along	"Reverse Ride-Along Capacity Building and Program Evaluation"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediation 	City-wide
Rhonda Crowder & Associates	"Dickens Reads"	\$40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	City-wide
Rivers in the Desert	"The Healing Room Experience"	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	City-wide
Soul Serenity	"Soul Serenity Sober Living House for Women"	\$30,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restorative Justice 	Ward 5 – Slavic Village
Spread the Love Foundation	"Spread the Healing – A Criminal Justice Reform Program"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	City-wide
Together We Rise	"Project Ripple Phase One"	\$45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Prevention 	Wards 1 & 4

Public comment

None.

Formal adjournment

Garrett-Ferguson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. The motion was voted on. It passed.

If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at cleDOCUMENTERS@gmail.com with "Correction Request" in the subject line.