CUMBERLAND COUNTY – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MUNICIPAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES: October 12, 2017

Attendees: David Galbraith - Chair (Gorham), Tom Bartell (Windham), Jerre Bryant (Westbrook), Brian Dudley (Long Island), Chris Hall (GPCOG), Scott Hastings (New Gloucester), Theo Holtwijk (Falmouth), Neil Jamieson (Cumberland County Commissioner), Travis Kennedy (Cumberland County Public Affairs Director), Donna Larson (Freeport), Matthew Sturgis (Cape Elizabeth), Sandra Warren (South Portland)

Staff: Maeve Pistrang, Cumberland County Community Development Director, Sandra Warren South Portland /Cumberland County Community Development Coordinator.

1. Welcome & Introductions: a quorum was not reached.

2. Nomination / Election of 2018 Committee Chair. A quorum was not reached and therefore the group was unable to elect a new Chair. Current Chair David Galbraith agreed to stay as chair and readdress the election at the next meeting on March 08, 2017.

3. Maeve presented a PowerPoint giving an overview of the CDBG program, the County program and progress updates on current activities.

4. Overall Program Discussion: Maeve asked members to consider serving on the Application Review Team. 6-8 members are needed for the review panel. The MOC Chair (David Galbraith) will serve as Chair of the review team.

5. The group discussed encouraging more participation from member communities, including holding meetings at other locations and touring completed CDBG projects.

6. Donna talked about Freeport’s recent experience with LED streetlight conversion and suggested Cumberland County or the CDBG program could set up a revolving loan fund to encourage similar projects throughout the county. Maeve said a revolving loan fund with CDBG could be difficult because of the program’s requirement to meet a national objective of low-moderate income benefit and only several of the communities qualify town-wide or have qualifying areas. However, Maeve noted that energy efficiency upgrades are eligible under the program and qualifying communities could apply to CDBG to do that kind of project.
7. The group discussed the public service funding and repeat grantees. Tom noted that he would like to see more follow up information from repeat grantees about their need for funds and their accomplishments.

8. Theo noted that all of the questions around group participation, revolving loan programs, and public service funding seemed to indicate a need for a subgroup to meet and discuss the various issues. As a first step the group asked Maeve to provide data on public service grantees before the next meeting in order to discuss if any changes might be needed to the application process.

9. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30PM.