



Community Development Authority Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Determination of Quorum

A quorum present consisted of Hackman, Meier, Decker, Meyers, Lawson, and Elling. Staff liaisons Kornmann and Bennett were present.

Notice of Open Meeting

Staff confirmed the meeting was noticed according to law.

Approval of Agenda

Lawson motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Meier seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of minutes

Meier motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented from January 5, 2026. Decker seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Regular Business

2. Consider and take action to approve Façade Grant application(s)

Staff presented a 2025 recap of last year's grant applications. There were questions and discussion regarding the program going over budget. Staff can utilize line-item expense policy to address the overage and will look into the cause.

Staff then presented the submitted applications for the 2026 CDA Façade Grants. Applications were individually reviewed. The CDA would like to have their questions addressed prior to approving any applications and are limited in budget.

Elling motioned to postpone awarding grants pending additional information until the next meeting. Lawson seconded the motion. Discussion included confirming a list of questions to ask each of the applicants prior to the next meeting. Staff will reach out to the applicants for more information. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

3. Discuss media tools to communicate CDA activities

Staff recapped a brief note from the previous meeting about possibly recording CDA meetings. There was discussion about overall communication strategy for promoting development in the city and CDA activities such as the facade grant program. Possible strategy could involve leveraging the City's website and Facebook page along with utilizing area news outlets. The CDA directed staff to provide a strategy for sharing successes.

4. Consider and take action regarding CDI grant resolution of support policy

Kornmann presented some background information on the CDI Grant program by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). Kornmann presented a new policy to create a standard operating procedure, define which fiscal year an application is for, and to create fairness. According to the proposed policy, the CDA would review grant applications and recommend to Council a resolution of support for any CDI grant applications. Deadline proposed would be March 1. There could be a possibly for multiple projects applying, so the resolution of support policy would clarify steps for creating resolutions for WEDC CDI grant applications. Staff will draft a template resolution of support based on the proposed policy at the next meeting.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding Downtown Design Plan

Staff will present information on this topic at the next CDA meeting.

Future Agenda Items

Future agenda topics brought up include:

Determining time for project completion for facade grants, funding strategy for facade grants, fund balance usage, and FlyerView marketing project update.

Staff will provide an update on department activities in future meetings.

Adjourn

Meier motioned to adjourn the meeting. Decker seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

** These minutes will be approved at a future meeting and may be amended. These minutes are respectfully submitted by David Bennett, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator **