



Richland County  
Community Impact Grants Committee  
**MINUTES**  
March 18, 2025 – 3:00 PM  
Council Chambers  
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jesica Mackey, Chair; Paul Livingston, Gretchen Barron (via Zoom), and Cheryl English

NOT PRESENT: Derrek Pugh

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilwoman Allison Terracio, Councilman Don Weaver, Councilwoman Tyra Little, Councilwoman Tish Dozier Alleyne, Angela Weathersby, Anette Kirylo, Michelle Onley, Leonardo Brown, Stacey Hamm, Maddison Wilkerson, Ashiya Myers, Patrick Wright, Jackie Hancock, Kenny Bowen, Kyle Holsclaw, Aric Jensen, Lori Thomas, Matiah Pough, and Jennifer Wladischkin

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jesica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 PM.
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIR** – Mr. Livingston moved to nominate Ms. Mackey for the position of Chair, seconded by Ms. English.  
In Favor: Livingston, Barron, Mackey, and English  
Not Present: Pugh  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. **November 19, 2024** – Mr. Livingston moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Ms. English.  
In Favor: Livingston, Barron, Mackey, and English  
Not Present: Pugh  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. English moved to adopt the agenda as published, seconded by Mr. Livingston.  
In Favor: Livingston, Barron, Mackey, and English  
Not Present: Pugh  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ ACTION**
  - a. **Fiscal Year 2025 Community Impact Grants Quarterly Reports** – Budget Director Maddison Wilkerson gave an overview of the Quarter Two Report for the Community Impact Grants. She noted the Quarter Two Report was due on January 31, 2025, and many organizations were compliant. If a date is listed instead of complaint, it means the submittal was received after the deadline. She pointed out one organization was non-compliant. Additionally, a dash indicates the organization has submitted its final report.  
  
Ms. Mackey asked if Ms. Wilkerson could publicly share why the organization is non-compliant.  
Ms. Wilkerson responded they had followed up with the organization but had not gotten a response.  
Ms. Mackey inquired if it is typical for the organizations to have not drawn down any of their funds.  
Ms. Wilkerson replied that some organizations will be holding their events in the Spring; therefore, they would not have drawn down their funding.  
Ms. Mackey asked what “Incomplete” means.

Ms. Wilkerson indicated they have received some of the documentation but not all of it.

- b. Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Application Results—Ms. Wilkerson stated the Community Impact Grant window opened on December 2, 2024, and closed on February 4, 2025. Up to 1 mill or \$1,764,000 was recommended for consideration for the FY26 budget process. A total of 53 applications were received, including 8 Community Partner requests. The application summary report includes the organization’s name, application title, requested amount, and impact area. The 60% available for Community Partner requests equates to \$1,058,400, and the remainder will be allocated to the competitive grants.

Ms. Mackey inquired about the total of funds requested.

Ms. Wilkerson replied the total request was \$3,062,814.

Ms. English requested an explanation of the ineligible amounts.

Ms. Wilkerson stated there are guidelines that Council approved. Anything that falls under operating expenses would be ineligible. In addition, organizations cannot purchase gift cards, and non-profits must provide specific documentation.

Mr. Livingston requested the number of applications received for FY25.

Ms. Wilkerson replied that 77 applications were received for FY25.

Ms. Barron asked for confirmation if there is a “dash” or “hyphen” in the funding column; it means there are no eligible funds.

Ms. Wilkerson responded in the affirmative. The third-party reviewer deemed the application ineligible.

Ms. English requested to know what year of funding the Community Partners are in (i.e., first, second, or third year).

Ms. Barron declared that it is vital for the organizations to understand what has been deemed eligible or ineligible.

Ms. Mackey mentioned that the application contains a detailed list that guides applicants on what will be approved as an eligible expense.

Ms. Barron requested a breakdown of the funding available for the Community Partners and competitive grants.

Ms. Wilkerson confirmed that \$1,058,400 is for Community Partners, and the remaining amount for competitive grants is up to \$705,600.

Ms. Barron requested that the applications be emailed to her. She noted a summary of the application would fulfill her request.

- c. Fiscal Year 2026 Community Partner Grant Request – Ms. Mackey acknowledged at last year's meetings, the committee voted, and Council approved the Community Partners would be reconsidered and reviewed every three years. She noted this will be year three; therefore, as we go into our next cycle, we will review the Community Partners to determine if we want to add or change the list of Community Partners to allow everyone an opportunity to be a Community Partner. The committee will work to better define what a Community Partner is and how you achieve that status.
- d. Next Steps – Ms. Mackey asserted the next steps would be motions for the Community Partners and competitive grants.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** – Ms. English moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Livingston, Barron, Mackey, and English

Not Present: Pugh

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:35 PM.