



Human Services Commission

Meeting Summary

Monday, May 11, 2015, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Members Present: Jason Dick, Carolyn Mansfield, Steve Daschle

Guests: Josh McQueen, Joan Steberl

Staff: Brooke Buckingham, Alaric Bien

Public Comment

Mr. Gary Smith, a 40 year Redmond resident, is the facilities coordinator for Camp Unity at St. Jude Parish and also sits on the Redmond Homeless Task Force. He requested that the Commission approve the Mayor's request to set aside \$7,500 from the Human Services Fund to subsidize permit fees for homeless encampments in the city. He submitted a letter of support from Fr. James Johnson of St. Jude's, and also invited Commissioners to visit Camp Unity.

April 13 Meeting Summary

As there was no quorum, the summary was not approved.

Neighborhood School House

Joan Steberl, YMCA Eastside Operations Executive presented a request to change their scope of work, rationale, and a proposal for new services at Summerwood Apartments. They will focus on high need students from Einstein Elementary and offer enrichment classes and literacy activities based on consultation with the school counselor. They will continue to offer Family Fun Nights, Donuts for Dads, and Muffins for Moms at Redmond Elementary. They may offer enrichment classes based on space available.

Updates from Commissioners

- Josh McQueen, potential new commissioner, introduced himself
- Steve shared that the Best Starts for Kids levy proposal will be on the November ballot. This proposes to raise \$56M/yr for early learning and youth development. The Commission could consider endorsing after presentation at joint meeting in June.

Updates from Staff

- Alliance of Eastside Agencies luncheon is on 6/3. Please let staff know if you would like to attend.

- The Eastside Human Services Forum annual meeting is on 6/10. This is a joint event with Leadership Eastside focusing on meeting basic needs.
- Brooke met with staff at Open Kitchen, exploring potential City funding and expanding Mayor's Month of Concern activities.

Youth Voice Next Steps

Staff met with Ken Wong and learned that the Parks and Trails, and Arts Commissions already have youth seats. He suggested going directly to RYPAC to gauge interest at their June 4 meeting.

Commission Specialty Areas

Jason proposed assigning commissioners to specific focus areas such as youth, homelessness, community engagement/education, immigrant, seniors, or health care. Based on the strategic plan, we would just focus on 3 or 4 at a time. Some concern that by focusing on certain areas, others may be overlooked. Will discuss further at a future meeting.

Joint Commission Meeting Agenda Preparation

After welcome and introduction by Jason, an overview of Best Starts for Kids will be given by Adrienne Quinn, Director of King County's Department of Community and Human Services. Afterwards, discussion on whether commission(s) want to take a position either individually or jointly.

In addition to updates by city, we will consider posing a question to all, such as,

- What piece of data do you wish you had?
- What is something your commission challenged with?
- What never seems to make it onto your agenda?

Staff will prepare for a potential small group discussion topic: "What worked or didn't work with the funding application cycle?"

Data Review/Trends for Funding Framework

Fuller discussion moved to a future agenda, but did consider how to measure unmet need (check Healthpoint referrals out, time to appointment; mental health time to appointment, housing waitlists, and 211 calls). Could ask agency leaders directly what they think they need. Include questions about how they are preparing for raising the minimum wage and what they think the impact will be. Consider surveying agencies in July.

Homeless Task Force Debrief

Steve and Carolyn reported that the first meeting was mostly introductory. There was a presentation from Mark Putnam from the Committee to End Homelessness. Most members are sincerely looking for solutions. If environmental changes are needed to address homelessness, Carolyn wants it to be put to the appropriate budget, like Parks or Public Safety, not necessarily Human Services. Draft recommendations will come to the Commission in October, then go to Council. All meeting materials are on the website:

<http://redmond.gov/Residents/HomelessnessInRedmond>