

12-19-19 Human Services Commission Minutes

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CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Human Services Commission

6:30 PM
 December 19, 2019

MINUTES

Pickering Room, City Hall NW
 1775 12th Ave NW

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Derek Franklin, Chair
 Senthil Chandran
 Loretta Jancoski
 Jolie Kwan-Hart
 Sonia Sahay
 Rebekah Smith
 Susan Leonelli, Alternate

Administration/Staff:

Monica Negrila, Human Services & Social
 Sustainability Coordinator

 David Fujimoto, Sustainability Director

Absent:

Ana Jiménez-Inman, Excused
 Brooke Fraser, Youth Board Representative,
 Excused

Visitors:

Trish Bloor

CALL TO ORDER

- a) Commission Membership

FRANKLIN called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of November 19, 2019
 FRANKLIN invited the commissioners to review the minutes. SAHAY motioned to approve the minutes as presented. LEONELLI seconded that the minutes for the November 19, 2019 meeting be approved. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT

- a) **Local Updates, (I)**

Presented by:

Derek Franklin, Chair

FRANKLIN opened the discussion for the Commission on local issues. Commissioners discussed issues related to the lack of a local shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness and options for how the community voice regarding shelters might be discussed by the Commission. Commissioners also discussed recent community dialogue on meals for individuals experiencing homelessness, changes to food stamps regulations and the

impact on residents, the regional homeless authority, and other key initiatives (i.e.: Teen Center, Groceries to Go).

STAFF REPORT(S)

a) **Program Transitions, (I)**

Presented by:

David Fujimoto, Sustainability Director

FUJIMOTO informed the Commission that as a part of an internal organizational restructuring effort meant to help implement the priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan, the social and human services functions will transition to a new Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. The Office of Sustainability will focus on environmental sustainability and environmental stewardship efforts. Monica Negrila will continue her work with the Commission and staff of both departments have been working to help ensure a smooth transition. The transition will focus on ensuring the residents served are not negatively impacted by the internal changes.

b) **Meeting Schedule for 2020, (D)**

Presented by:

Monica Negrila, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

A draft meeting schedule of the 2020 Human Services Commission meetings was presented to the Commission. NEGRILA noted that due to upcoming Council meetings, equity training sessions, as well as the grants review process, the regular schedule might be altered to accommodate those meetings and changes in the volume of work.

c) **Point-in-Time Homeless Count - Volunteer Registration Open, (I)**

Presented by:

Monica Negrila, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

NEGRILA announced that the registration is now open and that volunteers are needed for Count Us In 2020, the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count of people experiencing homelessness. The purpose of the annual PIT Count is to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness in our community. The Count will take place from 2:00am-6:00am on Friday, January 24th.

d) **Regional Funding for Homeless Shelters, (I)**

Presented by:

Monica Negrila, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

NEGRILA informed the Commission that the transition from temporary shelters to permanent 24/7 enhanced shelters in the region creates a significant increase in operational expenses and that long-term financial revenue to support these efforts has not been identified yet. Additional funding may be needed also to support the winter shelter in Snoqualmie, which reached out to the city for funding for the first time. These needs will be further discussed in the upcoming months.

e) **Healthy Community Strategy Update, (I)**

Presented by:

David Fujimoto, Sustainability Director

FUJIMOTO presented a historical overview, from the initial council goal, to the Community Needs Assessment and the Healthy Community Strategy and he highlighted next steps in this process. The Commission was also updated about the recent presentation to the City Council, where information gathered through stakeholder interviews, community outreach, and feedback obtained from the Joint Commission meeting was presented.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **Grants: Approach and Funding Target 2021-2022, (D)**

Presented by:

Monica Negri, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

Conversation focused around restructuring the Human Services funds to include a separate application process for key initiatives requiring targeted funds (i.e. homeless outreach) and for equity related human services projects. Options to the funding levels were also proposed. Following a meeting with the Executive Office, the Commission will decide on a final proposal during the January 2020 meeting.

b) **Grants: Application Form Updates 2021-2022, (I)**

Presented by:

Monica Negri, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

A draft grants application form was shared with the Commission noting that the intent was to revise outdated language and to reduce redundancy. A final form will need to be vetted by the 17 cities included in the human services collaborative.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANDRAN shared with the Commission that due to increased demand in his work and family life, he will resign from his position on the Human Services Commission. Commissioners expressed their appreciation for CHANDRAN's work and commitment as a Commissioner.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.