

07-28-20 Human Services Commission Minutes

Page 1

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Human Services Commission – Special Meeting

6:00 PM
 July 28, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Alternate Meeting Format: On March 6, 2020, the Mayor declared a civil emergency due to the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 24, 2020, the Governor issued Proclamation 20-28 prohibiting open public meetings from occurring in person. The proclamation has been extended to September 1, 2020. Due to these factors, the meeting was held using a remote meeting platform.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Derek Franklin, Chair
 Loretta Jancoski
 Ana Jiménez-Inman
 Jolie Kwan-Hart
 Sonia Sahay
 Rebekah Smith
 Susan Leonelli
 Brooke Fraser, Youth Board Representative

Administration/Staff:

Monica Negrila, Human Services & Social
 Sustainability Coordinator
 Jeff Watling, Parks and Community Services
 Director

CALL TO ORDER

FRANKLIN called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individuals provided written comments prior to the meeting. The written comments were sent to the Commission in advance and were acknowledged during the Public Comment section of the meeting.

Cori Walters, Executive Director, Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank – thanked the Commission for continually supporting the Foodbank and provided an update on Food Bank operation changes due to COVID, changes to community donations, fundraisers, and long-term planning. Ms. Walters encouraged the Commission to prioritize food and housing in their recommendations due to long term COVID impacts on the community.

Steve Pereira, Resident of Issaquah - expressed concern about COVID impact on the community needs and risk of increased homelessness. He encouraged the Commission to prioritize those organizations that best meet these needs for the largest number of persons. Mr. Pereira also provided input on the Police Accountability, Equity and Human Services Action Plan, noting that changing the scope and membership as envisioned risks the wonderful work being done by this Commission and its members on behalf of Issaquah.

In addition, the following individual made public comments during the meeting:

Michael Reese, Director of Program Development Bellevue College – introduced the Center for Career Connections program to Commissioners and highlighted the importance of funding such programs during the COVID pandemic, in addition to food and housing programs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of July 13, 2020

FRANKLIN invited the Commissioners to review the minutes of July 13, 2020. SMITH motioned to approve the minutes with proposed correction: remove old Commissioner's name from roster. LEONELLI seconded that the minutes for the July 13, 2020, meeting be approved with the modifications suggested. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT

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

Presented by:
Derek Franklin, Chair

FRANKLIN thanked Commissioners and those who provided public comments for their commitment and collaboration during the grant review process.

STAFF REPORT

- a) **Human Services COVID-19 Response Updates (I)**

Presented by:
Monica Negrila, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

NEGRILA provided an update on the Human Services COVID-19 crisis response since the last meeting, highlighting the City Council's work on reviewing Housing stability options for Issaquah residents once the statewide moratorium is lifted.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **2021-2022 Human Services Grants, Finalize Funding Recommendations, (A)**

Presented by:
Derek Franklin, Chair

The Commission continued deliberations on funding recommendations for all five Goal Areas: Food to Eat and Roof Overhead, Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods, and Communities, Safe Haven from All Forms of Violence and Abuse, Health Care to be Physically and Mentally Fit as Possible, Education and Job Skills to Lead an Independent Life. In addition, the Commission reviewed and discussed the applications for the Grassroots Grants and Outreach and Case Management for Individuals who are Homeless. Final decision and action were postponed until the next meeting, to allow additional time for deliberations.

- b) **Issaquah Police Accountability, Equity and Human Services Action Plan, Commission Feedback (D)**

Presented by:
Monica Negrila, Human Services and Social Sustainability Coordinator

Commissioners provided input on the draft Police Accountability, Equity and Human Services Action Plan. Feedback will be incorporated in the final document that will be presented to City Council for endorsement on August 10, 2020. If endorsed, the Human Services Commission will begin addressing the elements in the plan pertaining to the scope and work of the Commission at the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Human Services Commission meeting date was changed to August 18th to accommodate a Council Study Session that coincides with the Commission's meeting on August 25th.

07-28-20 Human Services Commission Minutes

Page 3

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.