



City of Covington

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MINUTES

February 10, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Fran McGregor called the February 10, 2011 meeting of the Human Services Commission to order at 6:37 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Colleen Holmes, Kevin Piersawl, Fran McGregor-Hollums, and Aunna Moriarty.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Haris Ahmad, Saqib Ahmad, and Sue Ray were excused

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Victoria Throm, Personnel & Human Services Analyst
Noreen Beaufriere, Personnel Manager

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair McGregor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Moriarty moved and Commissioner Holmes seconded to approve the Agenda to include the minutes of the January 13, 2011 meeting as written. Vote: 4-0. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

SPECIAL SPEAKERS:

Melissa Munn Outreach Coordinator from Friends of Youth
Joe Alonzo Outreach Coordinator from Auburn Youth Resources
Jim Blanchard, Executive Director from Auburn Youth Resources.

Auburn Youth Resources (AYR) and Friends of Youth have been partnering on outreach to homeless youth in the rural Covington and Maple Valley areas this year as a result of United Way grant funding. Friends of Youth is located in the NE part of King County but has expanded their territory due to new grant funding. AYR has an established youth outreach program and youth shelter in Auburn and partnering together

has increased their ability to reach more rural teens that are not necessarily living in parks and streets but are couch surfing at a friend's house or living in a car.

The outreach team consists of two workers driving in a van filled with food, clothes, and hygiene items for homeless youth age 15-22 years of age. They frequent the places that teens are known to hang out; such as the library, teen center, school parking lots and begin to build trust and relationships with the teens. Over time, they refer the teens to case management or shelter housing. Friends of Youth come to Covington every Tuesday.

Melissa and Joe asked the commission for any tips or ideas they might have on how and where to reach these at risk teens. CM Holmes strongly encouraged them to contact the school career center specialist and the nurse instead of just the counselors. Teens know that they have confidentiality with the nurse and career specialist and often tell them more than they would a counselor.

The commission also recommended that they provide a booth with information at Covington Days, Kent Youth and Family Services Counseling and Substance Abuse staff, as well as the Storehouse Back to School BBQ event in August.

Jim Blanchard gave some history of AYR and how they work cooperatively with several other organizations such as Kent Youth and Family Services. Jim said the needs in this area are great. They provide intervention services and refer teens to other programs if it is closer to their home. Auburn has 4 beds open most of the time for kids to come to. Seven units are available on East Hill, two in Auburn, 30 units in Kent, and some in Enumclaw.

The commission thanked them for coming to present about the outreach program, a vital service to our local teens.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item 1. Continue Work on the Human Service Master Plan

Victoria asked the commission to review the draft master plan changes they had completed since the last review which was over six months ago. The commission did not want to make any further changes on what they have completed. Since Victoria did not have time to work on any new material, it was agreed that they each review the current material and begin to read the next section. Staff recommends that the commission read the binder titled: C.A.R.E. (human service needs assessment), specifically REPORT 2 – Housing & Basic Needs. This part of the assessment will be used to form data in the master plan housing section during the April meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 2. Plan Site Visit to the Pediatric Interim Care Center

Staff has confirmed a commission site visit to the newly funded agency in Kent, Pediatric Interim Care Center. The visit will take the place of the regular March 10th

meeting. Commissioners were asked to meet at City Hall at 6:10 p.m. to form carpools to the Kent facility. The tour should take about one hour.

The next scheduled site visit to Safe Havens has been confirmed for June and will be a day time visit for those who can attend. More information to follow.

Item 3. Review Housing Repair Programs

Victoria provided a memo for the 2010 Minor Home Repair program annual report. There were 13 households who had minor home repairs, mostly furnace replacements or repairs, a few plumbing issues and gutter replacements. Covington received \$24,000 of grant money and all but approximately \$5,000 was spent.

Staff explained the difference between the King County Housing Repair program which is a loan program and the Minor Home Repair program which is a grant program. Covington residents received over \$54,000 of loans thru the KC Housing Repair program in 2008. Data for 2009 and 2010 came in very low because it takes one to two years for the funding to go from approval to spent and recorded.

COMMENTS

CM Holmes shared some yummy home-made Valentine cookies with everyone.

With no further business, Chair McGregor adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by:



Victoria Throm
Personnel & Human Services Analyst