



City of Covington

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MINUTES

July 12, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair McGregor-Hollums called the July 12, 2012 meeting of the Human Services Commission to order at 6:38 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Leslie Hamada, Colleen Holmes, Fran McGregor-Hollums and Sue Ray

MEMBERS ABSENT

Haris Ahmad and Mia McFarland were excused. John Woodcock was absent.

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Victoria Throm, Personnel & Human Services Analyst

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair McGregor-Hollums led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CM HOLMES MOVED AND CM HAMADA SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, WHICH INCLUDES THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 14, 2012, AS WRITTEN. VOTE: 4-0. MOTION CARRIED.

GUEST PRESENTERS:

Human Service Funding Applicants will present their programs to the commission followed by Q&A.

❖ Parent-Child Home Program, Children's Home Society

Jason Gortney represented the Parent-Child Home Program at Children's Home Society. The goal of this program is to reach children of poverty. It is a model based on research to improve school readiness and literacy. Home Visitors are trained to use material to engage young children for 30 minutes twice a week. Children are given a toy or book to be used by the Home Visitor to build language skills, increase socio/emotional interaction while building trust with the family. Outcome data indicates 90% of these children start school at the same level as higher income level children with high school graduation rate also as strong.

This is the first year that CHS has been conducting this program through the United Way Early Learning initiative in South King County. It is a two-year program for ages 2 and 3.

The Commissioners asked how CHS plans to market the program and how much training the home visitors receive. Jason replied that marketing is primarily done through the schools, Head Start, WIC clinics, and social service providers. They also speak one-on-one with parents at local stores. Home Visitors are community partners and are provided training. They look for bi-lingual candidates.

The commission asked Jason how this program is different from Head Start ECEAP. Jason explained that Head Start doesn't start until age 4 and their program starts at age 2. Early intervention is a critical key to school readiness. The Parent-Child program is also a gentler program and less expensive to fund.

CM Ray pointed out that CHS does not have any Board members from South King County and they should look for more diversity. Jason agreed to take that information back to the director. Asked about why the transportation budget showed such an increase for 2013, Jason noted that the cost of home visits for 3 FTE will cause the increase.

❖ Regional Shuttle, Greater Maple Valley Community Center

Rae Levine and Allison Scott represented the Regional Shuttle for the Greater Maple Valley Community Center. Allison gave an overview of the Regional Shuttle and how the service expanded to Monday through Friday due to the needs. The Shuttle serves Black Diamond, Covington, Ravensdale, and Hobart residents at a cost of 50 cents for each way. The commissioners were given a handout with data on how many Covington participants have used the shuttle since Sept. 2011. There were 59 Covington residents using the shuttle for 925 rides. Although 75% of their clients are seniors, many young families and teens depend on the shuttle to attend family or youth connections activities at the community center. There are 27 Covington sites where the shuttle takes clients.

Victoria asked why the budget revenue sheet lists a request to Covington for \$8,000 and Maple Valley only \$3,800. Allison explained that the City of Maple Valley gives a \$200,000 grant to the community center and they determined \$3,800 of that would go to the Regional Shuttle.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item 1. Report on Council's Adoption of the Human Services Master Plan

CM McGregor-Hollums, CM Ray and CM Hamada gave a report on the Council's adoption of the Human Services Master Plan. They all mentioned how pleased the Mayor Harto was to have a master plan to guide the city in human services over the next six years. The Council shared their appreciation to the commission for their hard work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 2. Continue Discussion on Funding Cycle Applications & Presentations for August

The commission completed their discussion of the remaining applications. Victoria was asked to help guide Safe & Sound Visitation on developing a good outcome report and then report back to them. They also asked her to find out how new agencies find out about the South King Council of Human Services assistance to non-profits.

Victoria asked which programs they would like to hear present in August and the consensus was the following:

- ❖ Auburn Youth Resources
- ❖ Bridge Disabilities Ministries
- ❖ Kent Youth and Family Services - Clinical Services

Victoria will contact these agencies to set a schedule for each to present their programs at the August meeting.

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION OF COMMIONERS AND STAFF

With no further business, Vice-Chair McGregor-Hollums adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Submitted by:



Victoria Throm
Personnel & Human Services Analyst