



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 26, 2022
Granite Reef Senior Center, Room 8
1700 N. Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

PRESENT: Chair Neal Shearer, Vice Chair Tricia Serlin, Board Members Jeff Jameson, Roger Lurie, Patrick Dodds, Mary Jung, and Stuart Turgel

STAFF: Greg Bestgen, Director; Mary Witkofski, Housing Supervisor; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager; Mike Lopach, Human Services Center Supervisor; Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist; Sue Oh, Homeless Outreach Coordinator; Rachel Smetana, Human Services Manager

Call to order

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

No members of the public wished to speak.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2022

COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 28, 2022 HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON AND LURIE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONERS DODDS, JUNG, AND TURGEL ABSTAINED. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Introductions

Chair Shearer introduced the new Commission members. He encouraged everyone to watch the videos of their City Council interviews.

Commissioners took turns introducing themselves and talking about their backgrounds and interest in being a part of the Human Services Advisory Commission.

3. FY 22/23 Funding Allocation for Scottsdale Cares, General Funds, Endowment Funds, and SRP-MIC (Amended Recommendations)

Mary Witkofski, Community Development Supervisor and Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist, facilitated a discussion to amend the formal funding recommendations made and approved on March 24, 2022, due to calculating errors in scoring for Scottsdale Cares, General Funds, Endowment Funds, and SRP-MIC.

Discussion ensued and the Commission made formal amended recommendations for Scottsdale Cares funding as follows:

- Scottsdale Cares
 - Community Legal Services - Strategic Legal Advocacy \$ 16,600
 - Teen Lifeline – Crisis Services \$ 16,875
 - Community Bridges, Inc. - Mobile Community Outreach and Crisis Stabilization Services \$ 16,875
 - Scottsdale Community Partners - Emergency Mortgage and Rent Assistance \$ 16,875
 - Valley of the Sun YMCA \$ 16,875
 - Area Agency on Aging – North Scottsdale Home Delivered Meals \$ 16,500
 - Courtney’s Place – Courtney’s Place \$ 15,679
 - Phoenix Rescue Mission - Scottsdale Works \$ 7,216
 - Homeless Youth Connection – Empowering Youth for the Future \$ 4,811
 - Waste Not Arizona – Feeding Children, Youth, and Families in Maricopa County \$ 1,604
 - Bloom 365 – Lead Peer Advocate Program \$ 4,811
 - Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center (SARRC) Teen Lifeline – Community School – Paiute Campus \$ 7,217
 - Raising Special Kids – Navigating Healthcare and Education Systems for Families of Children with Disabilities \$ 4,811
 - Best Buddies, International – Scottsdale Inclusion project \$ 2,566
 - Fresh Start Women’s Foundation – Comprehensive Services to Support Women’s Self- Sufficiency \$ 3,207
 - Shoebox Ministry, Inc. – Fill the Box – Hygiene Kit Distribution Program \$ 0
 - Dress for Success – Workplace Development and Job Training \$ 0
 - Health World Education – Keep Your Health on Track (KYHOT) \$ 0
 - One Step Beyond, Inc. – Scottsdale Campus Arts Program (OSBi) \$ 0
 - Aid to Adoption of Special Kids – Mentor Program \$ 0

COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED TO APPROVE AMENDED RECOMMENDATIONS AS DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER DODDS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, LURIE, DODDS, JUNG, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

4. FY 22/23 Annual Funding Review

Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director, facilitated an open discussion about funding recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding Commissioners thoughts about the most recent funding allocation process and ideas for improvements. Commissioners commented that the process became intuitive once they got through the first few applications and that staff was very helpful whenever they had questions. Chair Shearer expressed frustration that once all of the scoring was turned in, the discussion became quantitative instead of qualitative. Comments were made about the importance of prioritizing community need and identifying areas that would be of the most benefit to Scottsdale residents. It was suggested that a conversation be had to create weighting around the priority associated with particular proposals and coming up with a collaborative process that would allow staff a voice in the process. Ms. Witkofski noted that CDBG funds are specific to what can and cannot be funded. She suggested that as the new funding process begins, staff give an overview regarding the elements that are important to the consolidated plan.

Rachel Smetana said that she is currently working on an accreditation program that requires a community need assessment. The work is quantitative in a way but could help with a qualitative approach.

Chair Shearer suggested that it would be helpful if like services were grouped together for easier reference during the scoring process. He opined that having the applications grouped in that way would be beneficial when tracking what service areas the dollars went to. Ms. Witkofski noted that at the end of each fiscal year, the Community Assistance office does a Consolidated Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), which includes areas being served, additional funding sources, and the numbers served.

Chair Shearer noted that Scottsdale Cares was established 25 years ago with a suggested contribution of \$1 per month and that amount has never been increased, although this year the requests totaled more than double the amount available. He would like the Commission to explore possibilities to increase Scottsdale Cares funds or request matching funds from the General Fund.

5. Homeless Outreach Services Update

Chair Shearer mentioned that a collaborative initiative between Harvard University and Bloomberg is working with the City of Scottsdale. A team of seven people were selected to pursue a process to develop potential strategies to address homelessness and affordable housing. Director Bestgen clarified that staff will give a presentation on that topic at a future meeting, once Mayor Ortega has been given an update on the program.

Sue Oh, Human Services Homeless Outreach Coordinator, provided an update on

homelessness outreach programs and activities. The City has been working with nonprofit and faith-based organizations to provide services to the homeless population, primarily using AZ Cares federal funds. She highlighted organizations that the City has been working with and described the services they are providing and statistics on unduplicated individuals served. Organizations that she mentioned included the following:

- Community Bridges
- New Faces Day Relief Center
- Phoenix Rescue Mission
- ELAINE
- St. Joseph the Worker

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Oh said that the Federal CARES Act will be available to fund contracts through June 30, 2023. Once those funds are depleted, approximately 80 percent of the services currently being provided could be in jeopardy and could be in a position of depending on SRP-MIC funds and General Funds.

Director Bestgen said that there has been an increase in people experiencing homelessness in Indian School Park and along the Greenbelt, through Chaparral Park and around Vista del Camino. He noted that the police department is putting in a beat office at Indian School Park in response to issues surrounding the homeless population.

6. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- Possible work session to talk about funding cycle and funding sources
- Presentation on Human Services plans to create an interdepartmental team to address homeless issues and police department involvement

7. Adjournment

VICE-CHAIR SERLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, LURIE, DODDS, JUNG, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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