



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**
Regular Meeting – MINUTES
Thursday, May 28, 2026
Granite Reef Senior Center
1700 N. Granite Reef Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Chair Roger Lurie, Vice-Chair Lee Cooley, Commission Members Neal Shearer, Cynthia Hill, Sheila Roe, and Carlee Schexnayder

ABSENT: Commission Member Mary Jung

STAFF: Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director; Jessica Rapp, Human Services Manager; Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Youth and Family Services Manager; Sue Oh, Human Services Manager; Deanna Owens, Human Services Manager; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager

Call to Order

Chair Lurie called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Approval of Minutes

Approve the May 14, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONER SHEARER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 14, 2026 HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. VICE-CHAIR COOLEY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL

VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS SHEARER, HILL, ROE, AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Human Services Advisory Commission Bylaws Amendment

Chair Lurie reviewed the proposed bylaw amendment to 7.0. Conflict of Interest section of the bylaws. The amendment shall read: Members shall also comply with all applicable federal conflict-of-interest requirements related to programs reviewed by the Commission, including disclosure and recusal when a personal, financial, or organizational relationship could create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict. He noted that the addition was recommended by Scottsdale's legal department in response to a previous conflict of interest incident.

COMMISSIONER ROE MOVED TO APPROVE THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION BYLAWS AMENDMENT AS PRESENTED. VICE-CHAIR COOLEY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS SHEARER, HILL, ROE, AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Director's Report

Interim Director Witkofski provided an update on activities in the Human Services Department. Her presentation highlighted the following items:

- **Paiute Neighborhood Center**
 - Spanish parenting workshop sponsored by Maricopa County Public Health Department was held on April 9th and 16th. There were 21 attendees.
 - Raising a reader was an eight week program offering one-hour sessions. Families that attended received a literacy kit and 12 free books in their choice of English or Spanish.
 - Little Chef's Storytime. Children were given an opportunity to practice chef skills making fruit nachos while learning about healthy eating.
 - Author of "Little Tree is Enough," Debi Novanty read her book to children.
 - Coffee and Community. Held on April 3rd.
 - Legal Night, hosted by Scottsdale Bar Association, was held on April 14th. There were 16 attendees.
- **Career Services**
 - Teen Employment Workshop. Career Services' Teen Employment program delivered job-seeking workshops to groups from the Math and Science Academy and Saguaro High School Intervention Classes. A total of 40 students attended.
 - Helping HUB. Nine people visited Helping HUB at Civic Center Library during the month of April. Approximately 40 people have participated since the program's kickoff in January.
 - Job Strategies for Seniors, Retirees, and the Young at Heart Seminar. Scheduled at Granite Reef Senior Center on June 23 at 10:00 a.m.

- Youth and Family Services
 - Mayor's Youth Council. Held their end-of-year celebration on May 11 and attended an appreciation gathering at Granite Reef Senior Center, where they were commended by Mayor Borowski for all their hard work.
 - Recruitment for next year's Mayor's Youth Council is ongoing. Interviews will be held during the month of June.
- Vista Del Camino
 - CAP Water Assistance in partnership with the water department's revenue recovery, provides financial assistance to residents experiencing hardship with their water bills.
 - Family Recreation program had a T-Shirt party and an Earth Day event during the month of April.
 - Homework Help concluded the season on May 20, 2026.
 - Food Bank. Will receive a grant through Scottsdale Community Partners/St. Mary's Food Bank. The amount is unknown at this time.
 - The U.S. Health and Human Services Regional Director visited the facility.
- Housing and Community Assistance
 - Staff are working on the Consolidation Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Community Development Block Grant and a self-audit of the Housing Choice Voucher program, Section-8 management assessment program (SEMAP).
- Scottsdale Heat Relief Season
 - Beat-the-Heat donations have been received and are being processed by staff. Delivery of packets will begin during the first two weeks of June. Water donations for cooling centers are being accepted at all public libraries and human services centers.
- Granite Reef and Via Linda Senior Centers
 - Vintage Voice podcast was released over the past weekend and can be heard on Spotify.
 - Staff will make a presentation to Human Relations Commission on Adult Day Healthcare program in the Fall.
 - Senior prom at Granite Reef Senior Center was held on May 19th.
 - Mother's Day celebrations were held at both centers.
- Coming to Human Services Commission in Fall 2026
 - Presentations from Scottsdale Community Partners during the August 13th meeting. Partners for Paiute has been invited to present in the Fall.
 - Federal Funding updates
 - Annual funding process revisions.
 - Homeless programs update
 - Adult Day Care Center social return on investment update.

- Paiute feasibility study. Is pending adoption on June 9, 2026.
- Opioid funding process. Is pending budget adoption on June 9, 2026.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions about upcoming agenda items.

3. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items could include:

- Federal Funding Update – including how the end of SNAP benefits will affect the Food Bank.
- Back to School Program update.
- Presentation from the Chair of the Veterans Advisory Commission regarding veterans who rely on services for vulnerable seniors.
- Chair and Vice-Chair elections.
- Consideration of adding an agenda item for Commissioner comments.

The next meeting will be August 13, 2026. There will be no meetings during June or July.

5. Adjournment

VICE-CHAIR COOLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER SHEARER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS SHEARER, HILL, ROE, AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

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