

CITY OF BELLEVUE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
MINUTES

October 6, 2009  
6:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall  
City Council Conference Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Stout, Commissioners Beighle, Hoople, Plaskon, Yantis

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Huenefeld-Gese

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Leslie, Alex O'Reilly, Joseph Adriano, Cynthia Sessoms, Department of Parks and Community Services

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Stout who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Huenefeld-Gese.

Grant Coordinator Joseph Adriano introduced intern Cynthia Sessoms from the University of Washington School of Social Work. He said she will be with the city until June 2010.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Plaskon noted that both sets of minutes indicated the presence of former Commissioner Berta Seltzer.

A. September 1, 2009

Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Beighle. Second was by Commissioner Hoople and the motion carried unanimously.

B. September 15, 2009

Commissioner Beighle referred to the third paragraph on the second page of the minutes and asked to have “homelessness” replaced with “homeless One Night Count.”

Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Beighle. Second was by Commissioner Hoople and the motion carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Hoople said he attended the recent meeting with ARCH along with Chair Stout and Commissioners Plaskon and Yantis. He said the information shared was very helpful.

Commissioner Yantis pointed out the discrepancy between the ten percent of new affordable housing units being achieved and the 40 percent the Growth Management Act calls for and said he has yet to hear any propositions for closing the gap. He allowed that the question is a large one for the Council to deal with. Human Services Manager Emily Leslie noted that the Bel-Red corridor redevelopment will yield additional affordable housing units and suggested the Council may be counting on that to pick up the slack.

Chair Stout observed that the housing in the Bel-Red corridor will address the 80 percent of median income category. She said she would like to see the city aim to achieve more units affordable at the 50 percent level.

Commissioner Plaskon commented that economic changes often can create an environment in which people are more willing to make allowances for future benefits that will keep their projects online. It may be time to suggest to the City Council the need to push hard to create the needed housing.

Chair Stout said Bellevue has not really supported the notion of allowing accessory dwelling units (ADU). Kirkland allows them and there are some very attractive projects there that include ADUs which are designed so well it is not evident that there are two units. Other jurisdictions have also stepped up to allow ADUs.

Chair Stout said the ARCH presentation was exceedingly well done. It was particularly helpful to have presentations by ARCH director Art Sullivan as well as a developer and a representative from the state.

Commissioner Yantis said he was struck by the comment of the developer that ten percent is a target that works for developers, and that anything beyond that mark will not fly with developers. Mr. Sullivan countered, however, with the statement that

incentives that are not currently attractive to developers may be viewed in a more favorable light in time.

Commissioner Plaskon suggested it would be helpful to have ARCH give a presentation to the Commission to help formulate a recommendation to be forwarded to the City Council. Ms. Leslie said she could invite planners Paul Inghram and Janet Levine from the Department of Planning and Community Development to come and talk about what the Council is thinking currently and what direction they are moving in. They could also provide answers with regard to the Growth Management Act requirements.

It was agreed that the presentation would be very helpful to the Commission. It was further agreed that Councilmember Creighton should be invited to attend the presentation.

Chair Stout suggested that the Commission should be pushing the housing needs of the population that is most vulnerable and about which the Commission is most knowledgeable. No other body is likely to take on that role.

Chair Stout said she was recently informed that the developer wanting to put a senior housing project on the former Angelo's Nursery site in the Bel-Red corridor has dropped his option on the property. She said that news was disturbing because of the need for senior housing in Bellevue, even though the units were not intended to be affordable.

Commissioner Yantis reported that he attended the Hopelink food bank event in Kirkland along with Chair Stout and Commissioner Plaskon. Commissioner Plaskon said the facility is very impressive and added that Hopelink as an agency clearly has its act together.

Chair Stout reminded the Commissioners that the Hopelink luncheon is scheduled for October 19.

Ms. Leslie informed the Commissioners that on October 7 the King County Council would be holding a public hearing on their proposed 2010 budget. The hearing will be in the Bellevue City Council chambers beginning at 7:00 p.m. A number of human services representatives plan to attend and testify.

Ms. Leslie said earlier in the day she and Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly had attended the legislative breakfast for the Committee to End Homelessness. She said there was a good turnout of state legislators and other elected officials. Councilmember Bonincontri attended representing Bellevue. The speaker, a chaplain who works with mentally ill homeless persons, was inspiring.

Mr. Adriano reported that most of the south county funders have decided to join the north and east county funders group. A small workgroup has been formed to work on

the nuts and bolts of the application document and to work with the web developer.

Ms. O'Reilly informed the Commissioners that about six months ago the King County Children and Family Commission gave a grant to SOAR, Helping Kids Reach for the Sky, for what is called the Latino Healthy Families Project. The project will include a series of focus groups throughout the county with Latino families with young children. The discussions will center on the ways the families can be served. In certain areas the focus has been on teen parents. Two focus groups are scheduled to occur on the Eastside, one on October 17 at the Crossroads Community Center. The discussions are conducted entirely in Spanish. The outcomes of the sessions will be used to help develop programs and fund existing programs. A final report on the program should be out by the middle of December.

Ms. O'Reilly said the Eastside Easy Rider Coalition will host a forum on November 19 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Crossroads Community Center. There are seven or eight partners involved in looking at coordinated transportation options for special needs populations. There will be a panel with representatives from King County Metro and transit providers from Snohomish and Pierce counties on the topic of coordinating transportation services and best practices.

## 6. DISCUSSION

### A. Mid-Biennium Review of Human Services General Fund Contracts

Mr. Adriano said none of the reviews for programs in the Goal 2 area were significantly controversial, so no agencies were specifically asked to attend.

#### #28 Asian Counseling and Referral Service – Youth Program

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#### #29 Assistance League of the Eastside – Operation School Bell

Commissioner Hoople asked why the program has not expended more of its funding given that it provides clothes and the like to children at the beginning of the school year. Mr. Adriano said the program is at its peak between August and October. A report will likely be filed in November.

#### #30 Bellevue College – Head Start

Chair Stout asked why the numbers for the program are so much higher than they were a year ago. Mr. Adriano said he would be glad to check on that. He pointed out that there was an issue in 2008 with the way the agency was counting Bellevue residents, the result of which was not all Bellevue residents were counted.

Commissioner Beighle thought it would be helpful to have “officially enrolled” defined.

#31 Bellevue School District – Early Childhood Program

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#32 Bellevue School District – Human Services Specialist/Family Connection Centers

Commissioner Beighle asked if the program includes English as one of the language groups. Mr. Adriano said the service units should indicate all language groups together. He said he could seek clarification as to whether or not the number includes English speakers.

Chair Stout said she could not tell from the report whether the program was getting any case management or other results or if it was just numbers.

#33 Bellevue School District – VIBES Program

Chair Stout asked why the 2009 goals were set so low when the 2008 figures were many times higher. Ms. Leslie pointed out that the 2008 figures do not represent the goals but the actual. She said the 2009 goals could be predicated on what the Bellevue funding would buy, and it could be that what is reported is the total number of Bellevue residents served.

#34 Bellevue School District – Project Learn

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#35 Bellevue Boys and Girls Club – Summer Camp

Mr. Adriano said the agency submitted its report on the program but there was an issue with regard to the way the numbers were reported. Those issues are being resolved.

#36 Catholic Community Services – Volunteer Chore Service

Chair Stout questioned why the first two of the three outcomes statements appear to be identical. Mr. Adriano said the first two cells in the first column should be combined.

#37 Child Care Resources – Child Care Financial Assistance

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#38 Child Care Resources – Resource and Referral

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#39 Child Care Resources – Homeless Child Care Program

Chair Stout noted that the report shows nine Bellevue residents served in both years and no non-Bellevue residents and asked if Bellevue is the only city providing scholarships in the program. Mr. Adriano said he would have to check on that to be sure.

#40 Chinese Information and Service Center – Cultural Navigator Program

Ms. Leslie informed the Commissioners that the agency will be conducting an open house on October 14 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Center.

#41 Crisis Clinic – 2-1-1 Information Line

Mr. Adriano said staff continues to be disappointed with the ability of the agency to provide accurate reports. A monitoring visit is scheduled with the agency and submittal of the standard demographic report will be mentioned.

Commissioner Beighle questioned the indicator that 90 percent of the callers intend to follow up with the information given them. Mr. Adriano said they ask that question at the end of every call that yields that information.

#42 Eastside Legal Assistance

Mr. Adriano said there was a slight issue with their second service unit. Technically the city must follow up with agencies reporting less than 40 percent, and at the time of the report the program was at 39 percent.

#43 Friends of Youth – Healthy Start

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#44 Hopelink – Family Development

Mr. Adriano said the report was not submitted until October 5. It was a challenge to get it owing in part to their move and the new staff.

#45 Kindering Center

Chair Stout asked if the child care centers served number refers to the number of providers they are providing services to or the number of children served. Mr.

Adriano said he would seek an answer to that question. Ms. O'Reilly pointed out that the program serves all of King County.

#46 YMCA – Lake Heights Child Care Program

The Commissioners had no questions regarding the program.

#47 Youth Eastside Services – Early Intervention for Youth At-Risk

Chair Stout asked why the program billed such a high percentage of the annual contract amount in the first six months. Ms. Leslie said some agencies do that for cash flow purposes depending on when their other grant monies come in. Some agencies bill out completely by July.

#52 Youth Eastside Services – Response to Youth Program

Chair Stout said she was excited to see a program successfully relying on the developmental assets program and the high number of positive responses given by youth about being able to get help at Ground Zero and Spiritwood Manor.

#53 SUCCESS – Mentoring Program

Chair Stout pointed out that the number of youth and adult service hours in 2008 was 1,191 and that the goal for 2009 is only 520 even though the number service hours to date was reported to be 933.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. O'Reilly reported that staff are continuing to update data for the needs assessment. She said the draft will be on the Commission's schedule for review the second meeting in November. The document will not be taken to the City Council until January and up until that time the data will continue to be refined as new information comes in.

Ms. Leslie reminded the Commission that staff will be going before the City Council on October 26 to present the 2010 CDBG funding recommendations.

Mr. Adriano said the planned visit to Jubilee Reach has run into scheduling issues. The details are still being worked out.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

## 9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stout adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

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Secretary to the Human Services Commission

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Date

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Chairperson of the Human Services Commission

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Date