

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

May 3, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
City Council Conference Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson McEachran, Commissioners Bruels, Kline, Mercer, Oxrieder, Perelman, Villar

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Leslie, Alex O'Reilly, Dee Dee Catalano, Jaime Fajardo, Department of Parks and Community Services

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair McEachran who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Perelman who arrived at 6:04 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 5, 2016

A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Villar. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kline and the motion carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Villar reported that she attended the recent Issaquah Schools Foundation luncheon where over \$614,000 was raised.

Chair McEachran said he attended Sophia Way's Breakfast With A Purpose event with Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly and Human Services Manager Emily Leslie. He said the event was small but impressive. He said on May 6 he would be attending the Congregations for the Homeless lunch at the Hyatt for which there are 399 confirmed reservations for the event.

Chair McEachran reported that he recently visited Eastside Baby Corner and came away very impressed. He recommended that any Commissioner who has not visited the site should do so.

Intern Jaime Fajardo said he attended the recent University of Washington School of Social Work Scholarship Breakfast with Alex O'Reilly and Emily Leslie.

Grant Coordinator Dee Dee Catalano provided the Commissioners with corrected applications for Congregations for the Homeless and explained that Kirkland had asked CFH to make some corrections in the revenue tables after the applications had already been downloaded for the commissioners.

6. DISCUSSION

A. Initial Review of Human Services Applications – Round 1 (Goal 2, 3, 4 Preliminary Review)

Ms. Catalano explained that the total requests exceed the amount available to allocate by \$1,179,459. Taking into account only the requests from those programs that were funded for 2016 and which have re-applied reduces the deficit to \$584,276. If all programs currently funded and which have re-applied were to be given their 2016 allocation plus a 3.3 percent COLA, there would be a surplus of \$147,339.

33. Alpha Supported Living Services: Alpha Supported Living Services

Commissioner Bruels said the program provides services to developmentally disabled persons. The agency has applied for funding from Bellevue in the past but has not previously been funded.

Commissioner Villar commented that the number of disabled persons in the area continues to grow. For the reason, the application might merit additional consideration.

Commissioner Kline observed that while the agency does not appear to be losing United Way funding, the service area certainly is. Referring to page 17 of the application, she called attention to the statement made about taking over services for an agency the state had concerns about and asked if it is known what agency is referenced. Ms. Leslie agreed to ask the agency to clarify.

Commissioner Bruels said he did not believe the program represents a duplication of services. He pointed out that the agency has a contract with the Department of Developmental Disabilities and through the application is seeking help with the shortfall between their budget and that contract.

Commissioner Perelman pointed out that the application also seeks to add one FTE to extend the scope and geography of the program. No claim is made that additional clients will be located in Bellevue.

Ms. O'Reilly noted the agency does not have funding to provide recreational services for those who are part of their housing program.

Commissioner Villar observed that the agency made the same request two years ago but it was not approved.

Commissioner Bruels said that although there is another agency that provides essentially the same services, the agency is supporting people with disabilities in other ways, including planning and orchestrating events specifically in the community rather than in a facility. The goal is laudable but is not exactly a fit with the city's focus on supporting the basics.

Commissioner Perelman said she would prefer to see funding go toward supportive employment services and the like.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

34. Asian Counseling & Referral Service: Children, Youth and Families

Commissioner Bruels said the counseling and peer support programs have been supported by the city for a long time.

Commissioner Villar noted that the agency indicated on page 17 of the application that they had received MIDD and Medicaid funding, but they did not tie that into their other revenues. She said she would be interested in knowing how much those funds were.

Commissioner Bruels commented that while the agency is eligible for MIDD dollars, the specific program may not be. Ms. O'Reilly clarified that the peer support program is not eligible, but the children's mental health component might be.

Commissioner Kline noted that the agency received money from United Way in the last funding cycle but they are not showing any for the current round. She also called attention to page 8 of the application and the comment that the agency has an interagency agreement with the Bellevue and Kent school districts to provide mental health services for children, youth and family and asked if the agency is paid for those services. Ms. O'Reilly said the school districts are not paying for those services,

rather they are allowing the agency to provide onsite the services that are paid for by the city. For example, Lake Hills Elementary has an ACRS counselor on site that is paid for with Bellevue funds.

Commissioner Kline said she would like a better understanding of the overlap of the different groups providing services at Bellevue schools. Commissioner Perelman agreed and said she would like to know what services are actually being provided in the schools and who is providing them.

Commissioner Villar suggested one reason for the overlap is that different programs serve different cultural groups.

35. Assistance League the Eastside: Operation School Bell

Commissioner Bruels said the program, which the city has partnered with for some time, offers school shopping for low-income kids. The program is mostly run by volunteers and as such offers a good bang for the buck.

Commissioner Kline called attention to the statement in the application that the agency will receive \$3000 in interest in 2016 and \$2500 in 2017 and pointed out that with interest rates where they are, it takes quite a lot of cash to generate that much interest. She said she would like to know how much cash they have in the bank and why they are sitting on it.

Commissioner Bruels said he has never been overly satisfied with the program outcomes. He said it would be helpful to have a customer satisfaction survey conducted at some point.

Commissioner Kline observed from the application that Fred Meyer donates \$30,000. Nothing is said about in-kind donations. She said she would be curious to know if Fred Meyer gives a discount on the merchandise purchased by the kids, and if not, why the program is exclusive with Fred Meyer. Ms. O'Reilly said she would ask the agency to answer the question.

Commissioner Villar said it was her understanding that Fred Meyer shuts down the store to accommodate the sales to the kids.

36. Athletes For Kids: Athletes For Kids

Commissioner Bruels said the application is the third from the agency in the last six years. The program works with high school athletes and trains them to be mentors and tutors to kids with disabilities. He said the concept is great but the city funds other programs for kids and would be okay with passing on the application.

Commissioner Mercer said she did not see a lot of collaborative impact in the application.

Commissioner Kline pointed out that while the application indicates a branch has been started at Newport High School, there is no mention of public high schools in the list of school partners.

Commissioner Villar observed that both the current application and the application from two years ago included a statement about wanting to expand the program into Bellevue. It appears those hopes have not yet been met. Commissioner Kline noted that one or two of the private schools listed as partners do serve Bellevue students, but the direct impact is quite low.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

37. Bellevue School District: Human Services

Commissioner Perelman pointed out that the district asked for a substantial increase during the last funding cycle. Ms. Leslie said the request was not funded and the suggestion was made for them to find the money somewhere else. Commissioner Perelman said it appears they did not find the money elsewhere because none is listed in the application.

Commissioner Bruels said their lack of diverse funding has been a perennial concern for the Commission.

Commissioner Kline commented that between 2015 and 2016 their budget increased by \$102,000.

Commissioner Mercer said there is no question that the district counts on the program. Commissioner Oxrieder said while that may be true, it is not evident in the application.

Commissioner Bruels said he would like staff to ask if the district has any plans to diversify their funding for the program.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that the application is largely blank when it comes to detailing other revenue sources. She said she would also like to know if the program receives any in-kind donations. Ms. O'Reilly said she would ask for a list.

Ms. O'Reilly said the application acknowledges the program is seeking more funds, but the only reason given is that the district does not have the money and the program completes with other instructional needs.

Commissioner Oxrieder suggested the district has the money and could find it if it wanted to. The district has received huge increases the last couple of years from the legislature and they have hired numerous administrators.

Commissioner Bruels said he was pleased to see that in the coming year the program intends to use academic success as a potential outcome. Their diversity statement, however, is concerning in that it characterizes the Bellevue School District as preparatory, something that does not really fit the diversity category.

Commissioner Oxrieder said the mission of the district when she worked there was that income levels and ethnicity did not matter and that students would be made ready for post-secondary education, and that the district would supply the support needed to get there. Commissioner Kline said the record is clear that the district walks that walk.

Commissioner Bruels said he was fine with that approach but when talking about sensitivity to diverse cultures, there needs to be some sensitivity for class as well. The reality is that not all of the kids will go on to college for reasons like aptitude, economics and preference. What is unclear is what the district is doing to help those students be prepared to compete in the marketplace. The element of elitism does not belong in the diversity statement.

Commissioner Villar suggested it would be helpful to know how many FTEs were in the prior year applications and what the salaries and wages were to help in tracking any actual increases. The application does not adequately explain the large increase in salaries and wages.

Commissioner Kline referred to page 3 of the application under how and where services are provided and noted that while the Family Connection Centers (FCC), as drafted it appears that staff at the centers do not consider themselves to be school district staff. She said some clarification is needed with regard to the differences between the human services points of contact and the FCC staff, and in the case of Sammamish High School, the Jubilee Reach staff that are represented as filling the need. Commissioner Mercer said there are schools where there is an actual FCC person funded by the program that coordinates with the other schools, each of which has a district staff person serving as a human services point of contact. Ms. Leslie added that the floating FCC staff goes around helping those persons.

Ms. O'Reilly said she would seek clarification. She added, however, that she and Mr. Fajardo serve on the Eastside Pathways Collaborative Goals Taskforce that is focused on goals that dovetail with the Bellevue School District goals. The district representative has talked about post-secondary education and training, which would not have to be college.

38. Bellevue School District: VIBES (Volunteers in Bellevue's Education System)

Commissioner Oxrieder said she was pleased to see the program now includes tutors as well as mentors. She said she was also glad to see the program seeking to train the volunteers to help children work to meet the third grade reading goals.

Ms. O'Reilly noted that in addition to funding from the city, the program receives funding from the Bellevue Schools Foundation and the Bellevue School District.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

39. Birthday Dreams: Birthday-in-a-Box

Commissioner Bruels said the program has a unique focus, but not one that is in keeping with the Commission's funding priorities.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that not every culture celebrates birthdays, so in that vein the program does not embrace cultural diversity in the way the Commission would like to see.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

40. Camp Korey: Camp Korey

Commissioner Bruels said the program is heartwarming but also does not fit well with the Commission's funding priorities.

Ms. Leslie suggested the private sector would likely step up to support the program.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

41. Catholic Community Services: Volunteer Chore Services

Commissioner Bruels said the program has been funded by the city for many years.

Commissioner Perelman noted that the program has lost funding from United Way.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

42. Chinese Information and Service Center: Cultural Navigator Program

Commissioner Bruels said the program is another one that has been funded by the city for many years.

Commissioner Mercer commented that the increase in their ask is substantial. She added that the folks at mini City Hall rely heavily on the program.

Commissioner Villar said she had questions about the agency's fundraising efforts.

Commissioner Bruels said his read of the application was that the agency is seeking an increase in funding to fund a full-time program manager. He said he would like to

see them make the case for the increase, which the application does not adequately do. The outcomes are excellent and there is no evidence their program performance is dropping off due to not having a full-time program manager.

Commissioner Perelman said she would like to know what the organization will do if the city does not fully fund the application.

Commissioner Villar said it would make sense if the intent were to make the program manager full time so that time could be spent in making the program more visible in the community on the hope that the community would then step up to help fund the program.

Commissioner Oxrieder asked if there has ever been talk about adding another language or cultural group. Commissioner Mercer said the program covers a fairly broad range, though it focuses on Spanish, Chinese and Russian. Commissioner Villar noted that more languages have been added as the diversity of the community has changed. Ms. O'Reilly added that at mini City Hall some of the volunteers provide the languages that are not being covered by the cultural navigators.

43. Clergy Community For Children Youth Coalition: Clergy Community For Children Youth Coalition

Commissioner Bruels explained that the program is based in Seattle and is wanting to expand into Bellevue. He noted that the city already funds other youth mentoring programs.

Commissioner Kline suggested the program could be a good candidate for United Way dollars or funding from Best Start for Kids that focuses on at-risk youth.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

44. Crisis Clinic: King County 211

Chair McEachran noted the program has long been funded by the city.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

45. Eastside Legal Assistance Program: Legal Services

Chair McEachran said the program is another that has a long history of being funded by the city.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

46. Hopelink: Family Development Program

Commissioner Mercer commented that the large increase in their ask has to do with a change in the program's methodology.

Commissioner Villar said she would like to know why according to the application the program is anticipating a decrease in fundraising efforts.

47. India Association of Western Washington: IAWW Community

Chair McEachran commented that the application is new to the city.

Commissioner Villar said the organization has been run entirely by volunteers for a long time. The application represents the organization's first effort to request funding.

Commissioner Bruels spoke favorably about the program and said it is the type of service the community can get behind.

Commissioner Perelman said she would like information about the membership fees and the organization's fundraising.

Commissioner Mercer said adding the program with its level of diversity is a good way to go.

Commissioner Kline said she could see no explanation in the application for why their wages of \$18,000 for 2016 is jumping to \$175,000. Commissioner Perelman said it was her understanding the organization wants to make employees of those who have been volunteering.

Commissioner Mercer said she would like to know if the organization is turning anyone away.

48. Institute for Family Development: Parents & Children Together (PACT)

Commissioner Mercer commented that the collaborative impact of the program appears to be low in Bellevue. There are also not written formal partnerships in place.

Commissioner Kline added that their fundraising is weak.

49. Issaquah Schools Foundation: VOICE Mentor Program

Commissioner Bruels said the program is in the Issaquah School District but it serves Bellevue students. Ms. O'Reilly said there are about a thousand students who are Bellevue residents who attend in the Issaquah School District.

Commissioner Mercer said she found the numbers interesting. The 2017 projected numbers include 50 students from Bellevue and 210 from Issaquah, but Bellevue is being asked to fund only 18 of the 50.

Commissioner Kline commented that the program is exactly the same as the mentoring program already funded by the city. She suggested the program should not be funded because it does not address very many Bellevue students.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

50. King County Bar Foundation: Pro Bono Services

Chair McEachran noted that when the application was previously made for the program, the Commission was concerned about duplication of services with the Eastside Legal Assistance Program. He allowed that it was made clear the program offers a different level of programming.

Commissioner Kline said she would like to see more information regarding their income statement. Commissioner Villar agreed and pointed out that the application indicates the program is asking Kent to fund more services than Bellevue is being asked to fund but for the same amount.

Commissioner Perelman observed that the target numbers for Bellevue were shown as being flat even though the city is being asked for more money.

Commissioner Villar said the service is certainly valuable, but the proposed increase is significant.

51. Youth Eastside Services: Early Intervention

Commissioner Kline observed that the application was poorly put together and included a lot of cutting and pasting. She asked if the agency will be losing their United Way funding given that United Way intends to continue with youth as a funding focus. Ms. O'Reilly said United Way will be funding opportunity youth but not behavioral health services for youth. Opportunity youth are youth who are not staying in school.

52. Youth Eastside Services: Healthy Start

Ms. O'Reilly said the program started some 15 years ago as a consortium with Friends of Youth as the lead agency. Over the last year or two the various partners have decided to keep their agency intact around their own community, so there is one in North King County, one in the Snoqualmie Valley, and two in South King County that will all be standalones. Each may choose different models. The home visiting model Youth Eastside Services has selected is excellent, but it is for a very high-risk population of kids who are already involved with Child Protective Services. As such,

the program needs to be viewed as a new request. Friends of Youth will be keeping a healthy start model and will serve the Snoqualmie Valley, while Youth Eastside Services will serve Bellevue, Redmond and Kirkland.

Commissioner Perelman questioned calling it an entirely new program. The application indicates the city is already paying \$22,000 for the program. Ms. O'Reilly said that is funding for the consortium for 2016. Ms. Leslie clarified that on page 18 of the application it states the \$22,000 is from Friends of Youth as the lead agency for the consortium. Ms. O'Reilly added that it will be up to the Commission to determine if the program as proposed addresses a need in the community.

53. Youth Eastside Services: Community-Based Outreach Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

54. Youth Eastside Services: Success Mentoring

Commissioner Bruels noted the program is facing United Way funding cuts. Commissioner Villar said the agency is aggressively fundraising to make up for the shortfall.

55. Consejo Counseling & Referral Service: Domestic Violence Community Advocacy Program

Commissioner Perelman asked why the application lists such a significant program decrease in the budget.

Commissioner Bruels noted the application indicates a 33 percent increase to help support South King County cities. He asked why the city should be asked to support services in that area.

Commissioner Kline said the application is also not clear with regard to how their services levels are going to change with the budget decrease.

Commissioner Mercer said she was bothered by the fact that the numbers do not seem to change from year to year. The 2015 actual, the 2016 estimate and the 2017 projected are all the same. She suggested the agency should be asked to update the numbers.

56. Crisis Clinic: Teen Link

Commissioner Kline said she would like to know the typical tenure of the teens who answer the phones. Commissioner Perelman said they are usually asked for a two-year commitment.

58. Harborview: Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress Services

Commissioner Kline questioned how a \$1.8 million benefit could be for 1.1 staff FTE. Ms. Leslie agreed to clarify the numbers.

59. King County Sexual Assault Resource Center: Comprehensive Sexual Assault Services

Commissioner Kline noted that the application, and indeed applications from other agencies as well, cite the Needs Update listing facts they supplied, which is somewhat circular.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

60. Lifewire: Community Advocacy Program

Commissioner Kline observed that the program budget is on a significantly upward trend. She asked if that has been triggered by demand or by expansion. Commissioner Villar pointed out that according to the application, the agency has not historically asked the Eastside cities to pay a share of certain staff and the program budget was increased to reflect the true number of staff.

Commissioner Kline said it would be helpful for the agency to revise their overall budget to better compare apples with apples. Commissioner Villar added that it would be helpful to know how many FTEs were in the previous application versus the current application.

61. Lifewire: My Sister's House

Commissioner Bruels observed the agency had some trouble with reporting their costs accurately. Commissioner Perelman suggested that if the application is funded, a clause should be included in the contract calling for the inclusion of a plan for how the reporting errors will be corrected.

Commissioner Kline asked if domestic violence shelters are exempt from the coordinated entry system. Ms. Leslie allowed that they are.

62. Refugee Women's Alliance: Domestic Violence Support Group

Commissioner Bruels commented that no explanation was given in the application for the increased ask.

Commissioner Villar also pointed out that adding up their requests from the cities and other revenue sources comes to more than their 2017 budget.

Commissioner Mercer said it was curious no partnerships are listed. Additionally, even though they are asking for more money, their numbers are all the same as before.

Commissioner Kline referred to page 4 of the application and the statement that in Bellevue services are provided only to Russian-speaking victims of domestic violence, while in other areas services are provided to a lot of different groups. The application also indicates the target victims are main immigrants and refugees who lived in refugee camps, of which there are none in Russian. She asked why the services in Bellevue are limited to Russian-speaking victims only.

****BREAK****

7. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Villar reported that the opening of Just Being Human in Issaquah was very well attended.

Ms. Leslie reported that the budget requests were all submitted on time. She said she pulled out a list of homelessness-related projects where there were increased requests and packaged them into an additional investment ask of \$248,000. Hopefully by the time the Commission gets to the second round reviews, the results teams will have reviewed the budget requests and there will be a better idea in hand of what the budget will be. She added that an interdepartmental team is currently working on homeless issues. A presentation to the leadership team will be made on May 11 and May 18 to give them a heads up about the request in the budget for more funding.

A. Initial Review of Human Services Applications – Round 1 (Goal 2, 3, 4 Preliminary Review) Continued

63. Asian Counseling & Referral Service: Mental Health

Commissioner Perelman observed that the agency is moving to a new location and asked if they are expecting their numbers to change significantly.

Commissioner Kline said she was confused about the population to be served. A reference is made to clients who are likely to have limited English skills who are still suffering trauma from migrations. Commissioner Villar said she learned from her visit to the agency that even the highly skilled populations that are coming to the area have issues. The spouses in particular have adjustment and extreme isolation issues. The agency's previous Bellevue office was used primarily for tech workers who wanted to be able to go to a building that did not look like a counseling building.

Commissioner Kline commented that the application is vague in a number of ways. Research is referred to without any specific accompanying citations

Commissioner Villar noted the application does not list any fundraising efforts.

64. Bridge Disability Ministries: Mobility

Commissioner Perelman stated that the Commission has chosen not to fund previous applications by the agency for the program on the conclusion that the equipment the program puts in place is not medically necessary.

Commissioner Kline said the program is essentially Eastside Baby Corner for the elderly.

Ms. O'Reilly commented that when she interviewed Bellevue Fire Cares for the Needs Update, Bridge Disability Ministries was called out as an agency they use a lot. The agency works with a lot of people who do not have access to durable medical equipment, many of whom do not have insurance.

Commissioner Perelman questioned why the numbers have not gone down since the Affordable Care Act went into effect. Commissioner Villar commented that even for those with coverage, the process is often complicated to navigate. The program is much more attractive to those who are already sick and tired because there is less paperwork and the turnaround time is much faster.

Commissioner Kline noted that on page 19 of the application a statement is made about the explosive growth of the program over the last five years and the need for substantially more financial support in order to grow. She pointed out, however, that currently most of the equipment is received through donations. She asked if the statement means the agency will need to start buying equipment.

Chair McEachran said when the program began it enjoyed a great deal of support from the faith communities. The application shows that funding is being sought from every city in the region, which is clear evidence they are trying to make up for what they have lost from the faith communities over the last four years.

Commissioner Bruels asked what screening the agency does to make sure their clients have exhausted their health coverage options.

65. Crisis Clinic: Crisis Line

Commissioner Villar noted the application is one in which the city is being asked for more than the program range because they have previously been given more than their range.

66. Eastern European Counseling Center: Eastern European Counseling Center

Commissioner Bruels observed that the city already funds a number of mental health services. The program does, however, focus on a diverse community.

Commissioner Kline suggested it would be helpful to conduct a quick analysis of what populations are being served by the various funded agencies to determine if there is a gap.

67. Elder & Adult Day Services: Elder and Adult Day Services

Commissioner Bruels said he did not understand the increase in the amount of the ask. Commissioner Kline agreed and suggested the agency also needs to explain more clearly the Easter Seal issue and the statement that a Joint Acquisition Committee is working through a comprehensive due diligence process with the intent of Easter Seals acquiring the Elder and Adult Day Services organization.

Ms. Leslie said it was her understanding the merger has been in the works for some time.

Commissioner Oxrieder pointed out that the agency is seeking funding from United Way.

Commissioner Mercer observed that the numbers in the application do not match up with the projected program outputs.

Commissioner Bruels said the statement in the application that the need was determined by seeking funding for 25 percent of the EADS service hours, with 30 percent for Bellevue, makes no sense. Commissioner Perelman suggested the answer to that question could be found in the calculation on page 11 of the application.

Commissioner Mercer said the application only increases the number of Bellevue residents to be served by two.

Commissioner Villar highlighted the need for the Commission to fully understand what if anything will change if the acquisition is successful, and what type of impact on their collaborations could result.

68. Friends of Youth: Youth & Family Services

Ms. Leslie clarified that the program has nothing to do with the Healthy Start program. She also confirmed that the program is provided in Issaquah schools but for Bellevue students.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that according to the application, the program will serve three Bellevue students for the \$5000 ask. She suggested the program is hardly cost effective at that rate.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

69. HealthPoint: Primary Dental Care

Commissioner Bruels noted that the city has been funding the program for quite some time. He questioned the language page 5 of the application stating that people at 100 percent of the federal poverty level receive a full discount and pay only a nominal fee. He suggested the two are mutually exclusive. If the clients in fact pay a nominal fee, the agency should be asked to clarify how much the fee is. He said he also would like to know what services are covered, and if in fact the services offered are not those that are more involved and costly, what is being done for those who need the higher level of services.

Commissioner Bruels said he was not thrilled with the stated outcomes. Patient satisfaction would be a better outcome than the percentage of patients who complete the recommended treatment plans.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that the application indicates no fundraising efforts by the agency.

70. HealthPoint: Primary Medical Care

Commissioner Perelman commented that the numbers in the application are flat. She said she would like the agency to submit more accurate numbers.

Commissioner Villar raised her concern about the agency not conducting any fundraising.

Commissioner Kline asked why the outcomes speak only about people with diabetes. Commissioner Mercer suggested the agency simply chose a health outcome that is easy to track.

Commissioner Villar agreed it would be good to have a patient satisfaction outcome.

8. NEW BUSINESS – None

9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Villar. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bruels and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair McEachran adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Secretary to the Human Services Commission

Date

Chairperson of the Human Services Commission

Date

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

May 17, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
City Council Conference Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson McEachran, Commissioners Bruels, Kline, Mercer, Oxrieder, Perelman, Villar

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Leslie, Alex O'Reilly, Dee Dee Catalano, Jaime Fajardo, Department of Parks and Community Services

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair McEachran who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Perelman who arrived at 6:04 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 19, 2016

Commissioner Kline called attention to paragraph 11 on page 13 and asked to have the first sentence revised to read "Commissioner Kline said she generally found score sheets to be useful but in this case she did not."

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Villar. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kline and the motion carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Villar said she attended the Congregations for the Homeless luncheon. She said it was well attended and was for the first time held in a hotel rather than in a church. They came up short of their fundraising goal for the event but will have time to catch up during the year. Chair McEachran noted that he attended the event as well.

Chair McEachran reported that he attended the most recent meeting of the new Lynnwood Human Services Commission along with Human Services Manager Emily Leslie. Ms. Leslie said the group was meeting for only the second time, though most of the members have human service connections or backgrounds. They have been allotted a percentage of their city's general fund amounting to about \$500,000. They have also included a Human Services Element in their Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Leslie reported that the staff have been busy drafting the staff reviews of the applications.

Ms. Leslie said she is serving on the interdepartmental HELPS team that is looking at various issues that affect all areas of city departments. One big focus is on homelessness around which a presentation was recently made to the leadership team; a follow-up presentation will be given the morning of May 18.

Chair McEachran noted that the first meeting of the Affordable Housing Technical Advisory Group would occur on Monday, May 23.

Commissioner Villar asked for an update about siting a permanent homeless shelter in Bellevue and was told by Ms. Leslie that the work is still going on. The day center, as well as trying to find a temporary shelter site, is getting much of the focus. The staff HELPS team is sharing information and providing coordination of the various departmental efforts. The police department certainly is involved in the homelessness issue; they have a new mobile crisis unit that is funded through the MIDD tax, and they get involved in instances of aggressive panhandling. Code enforcement often gets involved, as does the permitting staff from the Department of Development Services in siting tent cities. There are also legal issues that get the City Attorney's Office staff involved.

Intern Jaime Fajardo noted that he was attending his last Commission meeting. He said he was very grateful to have had the opportunity to work with the Commission.

6. DISCUSSION

- A. Human Services Funding Application Review – Goals 4 & 5 and CDBG Preliminary Review

71. HERO House: HERO House

Commissioner Bruels noted that the agency has been a long-time partner with the city. He said they are seeking an increase of almost 95 percent. The model is consumer oriented and is deeply committed to including membership participation in policy development. It appears the requested increase is tied to the fact that their contract for employment is not covering the costs of the services, and there is a backlog of clients that they do not have the staff to address.

Commissioner Kline observed that the application indicates the agency is short on staff but shows only a small increase in staff salaries. She asked if contractors will be brought in to do the work. She said she was also curious about the fact that the application states both that there is no wait list and that they have members waiting for employment services. Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly said the reference could be to the fact that the employment component needs staff to help with placement and job shadowing. There is no wait list for people to use the clubhouse, however. Commissioner Kline said she would like more information about the magnitude of the employment wait list and how many staff will be needed to address it.

Commissioner Villar said the application refers to a corporate grant they expect to apply for and indicates they have received funding from that source in the past, but the revenue page does not show it for either 2016 or 2017. The application also references the fact that their lease is about to expire and that they may need to move. She said she would like to know when the lease will expire.

72. International Community Health Services: Dental

Commissioner Bruels said the program is operated within the International Community Health Services (ICHS) clinic. The application seeks a substantial increase. He said clarification is needed with regard to the dental services offered. The application indicates that clients are charged a nominal fee but nothing is said about how much that is. Clarification is also needed with regard to what they determine as elective procedures and services and therefore not covered by the financial assistance program. He said he also wanted to know what the agency is doing in terms of assisting people who cannot pay for elective procedures.

Ms. O'Reilly said she spoke recently with Michael McKee at ICHS about the payment schedule. She said she learned that Medicaid will pay for someone to have a root canal if the tooth is in the front, but if it is in the back Medicaid will only pay to have it extracted.

Commissioner Perelman called attention to page 16 of the application and the reference to funding from the federal HRSA and asked why they are seeking far less from that source for 2017.

Commissioner Kline said she would like to know what the agency does by way of fundraising for the program.

Commissioner Perelman observed that the application indicates a projected increase in the number of people the program will serve, but is not clear about why the budget should be doubling.

Commissioner Kline said the application does explain that the program has been operating at 25 percent capacity and the plan is to ramp up to 75 percent capacity. The percentages regarding residents served on page 8 of the application do not track with that, however.

73. NAMI Eastside: Education, Support, Advocacy

Commissioner Bruels said the local chapter of the national organization provides outreach support for individuals and families affected by mental illness.

Commissioner Oxrieder said she did not understand the outcome section of the application. Commissioner Bruels said he did not either.

Commissioner Villar commented that the application was silent with regard to the specific funding requests, number of residents served, and total service units. She said she also would like to know why some of their former supporters are not being asked for funding.

74. Pediatric Interim Care Center: Interim Care of Drug-Exposed Infants

Commissioner Bruels said the program provides a vital service in caring for infants not well enough to be released home but not ill enough to be kept in the hospital. The program applied for Bellevue funding two years ago but did not receive it. The application indicates only two Bellevue residents served by the Kent-based program.

Commissioner Villar asked if there is another program locally providing the same service. Commissioner Bruels said the program is the only one on the west side of the state.

Chair McEachran said the program is actually the only one of its kind in the United States. The program works with drug-exposed infants and is able to send them home drug free. Their daily care costs are about \$150 per baby, which compares to about \$3500 per day in a neonatal care unit.

75. Sea Mar: Community Health Centers

Commissioner Bruels said it appears from the application that the agency is seeking funding to hire care managers to help decrease barriers to access to care.

Commissioner Kline commented that the request appears to seek seed money for a new program. Commissioner Perelman observed that the application includes numbers of clients served. Commissioner Kline said those numbers could be interpreted as being for the agency as a whole. The assistance and referral component appears to be new.

Ms. O'Reilly said the program appears to be ongoing in other areas but is seeking funding to staff it at the Bellevue clinic.

Commissioner Mercer said the only source of funding listed in the application besides the HFFC cities is the Bureau of Primary Care.

Chair McEachran commented that the service appears to be duplicative of other funded programs. The program does, however, have a high number of Latino clients where there is a clear need.

Commissioner Kline said she viewed the program as a higher level service than what the Commission's targets address.

Commissioner Bruels said the idea behind the program is intriguing but it does not sound like the requested funding would actually accomplish making more services available to more people. What they are seeking is funding for someone to serve as liaison between the patients and the clinic, not to actually provide more services. He said he would like to know what the program has done, if anything, to access the cultural navigator services the city already funds, if they have run into any barriers accessing that service that have led them to try to bring the service in-house.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that Burien and Kent are both being asked for less funding even though more people are being served.

76. Sound Mental Health: Child and Family Services Community Services

Commissioner Bruels said the program provides mental health services for children and families. The program has enjoyed funding from the city for some time and the increase in the ask is not substantial.

Commissioner Kline said she was curious to know why the program budget was increasing over 200 percent.

Commissioner Oxrieder pointed out that the application does not mention Bellevue in assessing the need. Commissioner Kline added that the number of residents served in Bellevue is shown as decreasing.

Commissioner Villar observed that page 18 of the application was entirely blank.

Commissioner Kline questioned the salaries and benefits and said some clarification

is needed. She also asked how the service is different from what YES provides. Commissioner Bruels said the programs are not substantially different, it is just a matter of volume and capacity.

77. Sound Mental Health: Low-Income Counseling

Commissioner Bruels said the agency runs a mental health center as well as a counseling clinic staffed by professional counselors and interns from various masters programs. What they collect in terms of fees do not cover the actual costs and the request is to help close the gap. He said he was not overly happy with the listed outcomes and would prefer to see something along the lines of homelessness prevention and the like.

Commissioner Kline commented that the budget section for the application is exactly the same as for the child and family services application, complete with page 18 being blank. The only difference is the salaries section.

Commissioner Perelman added that the numbers served by the programs as shown in the application appear to be off.

78. Sound Generations: Volunteer Transportation

Commissioner Bruels said the agency was previously called Senior Services. The Volunteer Transportation Program has been funded by the city for a long time and is seeking a slight increase in the ask. The agency is facing a funding reduction from United Way and an increase in operating expenses.

Commissioner Villar called attention to page 20 of the application and the statement that Sound Generations funded the program for 2016 at \$47,029, and that that amount will drop to \$16,082. Commissioner Kline said United Way was funding Sound Generations as an organization and they were flowing the funds through to the program; the drop in funding represents the United Way decrease. Commissioner Villar said she would like to know what solutions the agency has for reducing the funding gap other than reaching out to the cities.

79. Therapeutic Health Services: Therapeutic Health Services

Commissioner Bruels said the application seeks funding for the agency's substance abuse clinic in Bellevue to engage in case management, counseling and opiate replacement therapy. The agency is a long-time partner with the city. The application seeks only a modest increase.

Commissioner Kline pointed out that the revenue page in the application does not make any sense; it shows an increase from \$3.5 million to \$14 million, which is more than the projected spending levels for both years.

80. Washington Poison Center: Emergency Services

Commissioner Bruels said the agency has applied to Bellevue for funding several times but has not yet been funded. The service is a useful one and provides answers and direction during crises related to exposure to poisons or toxins, usually by children. The program also provides an excellent consultation service to physicians. While it is a good program, it does not fit in well with the Commission's focus areas.

Commissioner Kline said the program has an emphasis on prevention, which does fit a focus area and which might make the program worth considering.

Commissioner Villar voiced concern over the fact that the budget in the application shows a surplus of \$192,940, even though they are seeking only \$72,984 from the cities.

Commissioner Mercer said she appreciated the fact that the program is part of the safety net and takes calls from all of the cities regardless of funding.

There was agreement not to consider funding the application.

81. Apprenticeship & Non-traditional Employment for Women: ANEW

Chair McEachran said the program offers women with career connections and retention services.

Commissioner Perelman commented that the program is operated out of Renton, which is also where most of the clients are coming from.

Chair McEachran observed that the agency is seeking funding from every imaginable source.

Commissioner Kline said while the program does address the issue of increasing employment, the primary focus is on addressing the workforce shortage in the construction industry.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

82. AtWork!: Community Access

Chair McEachran said the program provides support for adults with disabilities who are not working to engage in the community with non-disabled community members who have the same interests.

Commissioner Oxrieder asked what the program's other revenue sources are. Commissioner Perelman noted that King County reimburses them for services rendered.

Commissioner Bruels noted that the program is new and asked what was done previously to address the stated need. Ms. O'Reilly said the program is not new. Bellevue was asked to fund it two years ago but chose not to. The contract with the county does not fully cover their costs.

Commissioner Kline said it appears the need for the program is increasing given that people are either aging out or their disabilities are progressing to where they cannot work. It is not really an employment program.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that nothing is said in the application about fundraising activities.

Commissioner Perelman commented that the actual number of people served in Bellevue is relatively small. The impact of funding the program would be quite low.

Commissioner Villar noted that the request to Renton is to fund \$920 per person, whereas Bellevue is being asked to fund at \$2000 per person.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

83. AtWork!: Community Liaison

Chair McEachran said the program educating community businesses about the benefits of hiring people with disabilities, and working with employers to identify customized jobs.

Commissioner Perelman called attention to page 6 of the application and the statement that the service is offered free to the majority of the users and asked if the clients are asked to pay a fee for the service.

Commissioner Kline observed from the application that the program has 24.5 employees supporting 217 clients. Commissioner Villar said support staff accompany their clients until they are full trained for their jobs, which means each employee can only work with a limited number of clients. The companies hiring the clients pay the salary of the client but not the coach.

Commissioner Bruels commented that the application is silent with regard to the need to increase the ask.

Commissioner Perelman said she did not understand why the numbers for Bellevue clients would decrease for 2016 and increase in 2017.

Commissioner Villar said the application lists a mismatch between the number of people served and the amount per person relative to the amount of the ask. She said she also had questions regarding the outcomes.

84. Bellevue College: Career Center

Chair McEachran said the long-time partner program works with immigrants and refugees, dislocated homemakers, low-income populations, underemployed veterans and others. The program seeks to end homelessness by helping clients find jobs and access training opportunities.

Commissioner Villar said she would be curious to know why funding from the Walmart Foundation dropped from \$25,000 to zero.

85. Bellevue College: Head Start

Commissioner Bruels said the program is another long-term partner with the city.

Commissioner Perelman asked if clients must be Bellevue residents in order to receive the services. Ms. O'Reilly said the program prioritizes slots in the child care center for Bellevue College students. Some of them receive Head Start funds, but they are integrated and seamless. It is conceivable that a resident of Kirkland who is a Bellevue College student could receive priority. She said she would ask for some clarification.

Commissioner Kline said the staff-to-children ratio seemed quite high. There are 53 staff FTEs serving a total of 200 kids. Commissioner Mercer commented that many of the staff could in fact be part time. Where infants are concerned, the staff-to-child ratio has to be quite low. Ms. O'Reilly agreed to clarify the ratio.

Commissioner Villar noted that the program does not engage in any fundraising activities. Chair McEachran said it may in fact be precluded from doing so as a federal program.

86. Bellevue College: Preparing for Work

Chair McEachran said the program is part of Bellevue College's adult basic education department. The program helps meet the need of the immigrant community for English and job skills. Clients must be Bellevue residents.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that page 15 of the application was blank. Chair McEachran commented that fundraising for the program is precluded, and the fact that it serves only Bellevue residents narrows the field.

Commissioner Villar commented that Bellevue is being asked to fund more than half the program cost.

87. Boys & Girls Club: Project Learn

Chair McEachran said the summer camp program is focused on improving school performance and social competency while decreasing the amount of time at-risk youth spend unsupervised.

Commissioner Kline called attention to page 7 of the application and the statement that there are no other comprehensive after-school or summer school programs specifically targeting low-income youth in Bellevue. Ms. O'Reilly said the program is unique in that it is offered on-site in some King County Housing Authority buildings.

88. Bellevue School District: Early Learning Programs

Chair McEachran said the program offers affordable high-quality year-round care and education for children ages two to twelve.

Commissioner Bruels pointed out that the application reports a nine percent increase in applications for financial assistance, but the ask is for a 25 percent increase. He said he would like to know why. Ms. O'Reilly said the narrative explains that Sherwood Forest elementary school has identified 16 students that have a need for the program, in addition to their general program increases, and that that is the reason behind the increased ask.

Commissioner Mercer commented that many of the kids who participate in the program also have medical and other issues. The district's programs are considered very good relative to early learning, and they partner with agencies like Kindering Center to identify kids early. It would not be surprising to learn some of the program costs are going up because of the needs of the kids they serve.

Commissioner Perelman said she would like the agency to clarify the information on pages 8 and 9 of the application.

Ms. O'Reilly said the program is offered at all Bellevue elementary schools. Commissioner Mercer said the medically fragile kids are primarily at Phantom Lake elementary. She said she would like to know why the application zeros in on the program at Sherwood Forest.

Commissioner Kline said she would like more information about what the proposed budget covers. The application says there are 161 kids and 122 staff in the program. Additionally, dividing the total salaries and benefits by the number of staff would indicate each is making more than \$70,000.

Ms. O'Reilly questioned whether the number of students in the whole system is as high as 161. Commissioner Mercer suggested the agency should be asked to go back and make the numbers match throughout the application.

Ms. O'Reilly pointed out that the budget does not show any funding from Child Care Resources. The city provides funds to Child Care Resources for use throughout the county. Typically the early learning centers utilize those scholarship funds. She said she would ask why the budget did not show those funds.

89. Child Care Resources: Child Care Financial Assistance

Chair McEachran said the Financial Assistance Program provides child care scholarships to parents with moderate to low incomes.

Commissioner Villar voiced concern about the statement on page 18 of the application regarding what happens when the program runs a deficit. She suggested that if it is known every year that there will not be enough money and that funds will need to be drawn from other fundraising efforts within the agency, a different budget should be projected.

Commissioner Mercer asked what the rationale is for relying completely on the cities to fund the program. The organization conducts fundraising efforts and it would seem that some of those funds should be funneled into the program.

Ms. Leslie said the program began as a child care subsidy program operated by King County. The county halted the program and cut it out of its budget. Because Bellevue was contracting with the county for Bellevue residents, Child Care Resources was asked to take over the program. The agency has since added other cities and no longer operates the program just for Bellevue. Ms. O'Reilly added that when the county stopped managing the homeless child care funds from HUD, Child Care Resources was asked to take over in exchange for a management fee.

Commissioner Kline pointed out that 79 percent of the funds are used for direct aid to clients, which means 29 percent is going toward administration, which is quite high. She said she would support having more control over what it really costs to administer the program, and maybe even imposing in the contract a percentage cap. She also observed that the program has a waiting list in Kent and Burien but nothing is said about a waiting list for Bellevue. Ms. O'Reilly said there frequently is a waiting list for Bellevue children; she said she would follow up on that.

Commissioner Kline suggested the program should be able to provide for some flexibility over the hours people are able to call seeking services. Having some evening hours would be beneficial to the population served.

Commissioner Mercer pointed out that the requested amount should not be higher than the expenses listed in the application. Where discrepancies like that occur, it makes it appear as though the person filling out the application simply threw numbers into the mix without trying to make sure they are accurate.

90. Child Care Resources: Child Care Consumer Education and Provider Quality Improve

Chair McEachran said the program assists families in meeting their child care needs by providing referrals to providers and community resources, as well as through customized, culturally relevant and inclusive technical assistance and training for child care providers.

Commissioner Villar said she found it odd that the agency was seeking less funding even though their projected numbers were unchanged.

Commissioner Kline pointed out that the application lists the same amount of funding from United Way, and nothing is shown from new Best Start for Kids levy monies. Ms. O'Reilly commented that no agency included anything about the levy funds because they are too new and nebulous.

91. Child Care Resources: Homeless Child Care

Commissioner Kline asked about Early Achievers and Ms. O'Reilly explained that it is the state's quality rating system through the Department of Early Learning. She said the state is paying to train a lot of providers, but some providers are not yet in the Early Achievers system; by August 2016 all must be in the program. It would make sense for the agency to say it does not need as much from Bellevue because more providers will be covered by Early Achievers.

Commissioner Mercer noted that the ask is only moderately higher and asked how the program is dealing with the problems they shared with the Commission in January. Ms. Catalano said cities that previously were not asked for funding are now being asked to contribute. Ms. O'Reilly added that the agency also conducted an additional fundraiser.

Commissioner Villar observed that the application shows actual expenses and the projected decrease aligns with the decrease in the ask, but pointed out that the projected number of service units remains the same. Commissioner Kline added that the numbers from Seattle drop off altogether, which does not make sense. Commissioner Villar said it would be helpful to have the agency match up the numbers between the residents and the service units on pages 7 and 8.

Commissioner Kline said it would seem there should be a second service unit for counseling in addition to the service unit for child care.

Commissioner Perelman said the application is another instance of other cities being asked for far less money than Bellevue. Commissioner Villar pointed out that Redmond is being asked to fund three kids whereas Bellevue is being asked to fund six.

****BREAK****

Commissioner Kline observed that the YMCA child care program, which the city funded for many years, had not submitted an application for funding. She said it would be helpful to know what is happening with the program given that it is losing the Bradford Center location. She added that it would be helpful to include on the spreadsheet all programs funded during the previous cycle in order to track funding levels by category consistently.

92. Hopelink: Adult Education

Commissioner Villar commented that the application asks Bellevue to fund 55 people at \$571 per person. If that is true, the numbers do not match. It is only possible to get to the full \$63,000 ask if Bellevue funds 110 people.

Commissioner Bruels observed that the application indicates the program is recalculating its unit costs and that accounts for the increase in the ask. The question is what they have been doing all along and if the program has been losing money.

Commissioner Villar noted that what the program gets from other sources has been decreased making it appear that their strategy is to ask fewer sources for money.

Ms. O'Reilly noted that the full cost per person is \$1141, and that amount times 55 is \$62,755, which is essentially their ask rounded up. Commissioner Perelman said that does not align with the statement in the application that Bellevue will only be charged half the full cost.

Commissioner Kline commented that while the application indicates the cost per person is \$1141, their total expenses for the program divided by the projected number served the number comes out to \$1342.

Commissioner Mercer observed from the application that the actual cost is \$1141 per person, and that the program is projected to serve 110 persons. The application is clear that Bellevue is only being asked to fund half, and half of 110 times \$1141 matches the ask.

Commissioner Kline asked if the program seeks donations from those clients who are able to pay.

93. Hopelink: Employment

Commissioner Perelman said the program provides individuals with a career plan and moves them forward to finding work opportunities. The program has been funded by the city for several years, and the only difference is a change in methodology.

Commissioner Kline pointed that for both of the Hopelink applications the thresholds are incredibly low.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

94. IKRON Corporation: Integrated Employment Services

Commissioner Perelman said the program is seeking funding from the city for the first time.

Commissioner Bruels pointed out that the city already funds similar programs.

Commissioner Oxrieder asked if IKRON Corporation is a non-profit. Ms. O'Reilly said she would verify that.

Commissioner Kline suggested the program could possibly do a better job than Hopelink given how low the outcome thresholds are for Hopelink.

Commissioner Bruels observed that the home office is in Ohio.

Commissioner Perelman said she liked the emphasis of reaching out to the homeless community.

95. Jewish Family Service: Refugee and Immigrant Service Centers

Commissioner Perelman said the program provides assistance with refugee and immigrant resettlement, cultural orientation, information and referral, language support and social services.

Ms. Catalano clarified that the 2016 amount awarded in the application includes both CDBG and general fund dollars. Ms. Leslie said the service program is the only one that receives funding from both sources.

Commissioner Perelman observed that the program budget has increased substantially. She said that does not mesh with the fact that the number of service units is going down.

96. Kinderling: Kinderling

Commissioner Perelman said the program has long been funded by the city and keeps kids from being expelled from preschool.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

97. OneAmerica: English Innovations

Commissioner Villar said the program is new to Bellevue.

Commissioner Bruels said he liked the fact that the ESL program is not solely focused on employment.

Commissioner Villar said the application indicates that 98 percent of their clients speak Spanish as their first language, which is not the reality in Bellevue. She said she was not sure how ready their staff are to deal with the variety of languages in Bellevue.

Commissioner Oxrieder said she found it interesting that Tutta Bella is the agency's Bellevue partner. That is where the Alzheimer's Café is hosted as well.

Commissioner Villar said the lunchtime conversations are also held at Crossroads, which is about as close as one can get to a clear duplication of services.

Ms. O'Reilly said representatives of the program visited the Commission right after the ELL panel was conducted. She said she gave them the list of everyone who had participated on the panel along with their email addresses, and they said they would make contacts in order to initiate some collaboration. However, nothing is said in the application about having contacted any of them.

Commissioner Perelman voiced concern over the fact that the program is just starting and the fact that they are asking Bellevue to pay for the entire program.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

98. Somali Refugee and Community Services: Somali Refugee and Community Services

Commissioner Perelman said the program is excellent and is located in the Tukwila School District. The program, however, appears to have no connection to Bellevue.

There was agreement not to consider funding for the application.

99. YWCA: Employment Services

Commissioner Perelman said the Employment Services Program matches Bellevue and Kirkland funds with BFET funds. The city has funded the program for some time.

Commissioner Kline said she was surprised to see that only two Redmond residents were served in 2015 even though the Family Village is located in Redmond.

Commissioner Mercer asked what differentiates the program from the other employment services. Commissioner Perelman said it is primarily the group of people

served; the program goes after a particular group of people. Commissioner Bruels added that there is a need for the programs.

Commissioner Kline commented that the salaries and wages listed in the application are very low. Commissioner Villar said all the numbers in the application felt low to her.

Commissioner Kline asked if there is only one counselor to support the entire program, or if someone else employs the counselors and the information is not included. She also pointed out there are no clients from Redmond and no ask from Redmond.

Commissioner Villar said she would like to know why the fundraising number was so low.

105. Washington Community Alliance for Self-Help: Washington
Community Alliance for Self-Help

Commissioner Kline said she found the application confusing to read, in part because the organization is referred to by several different names.

Commissioner Bruels said he was intrigued by the microfinance concept. It is an effective evidence-based model. He said he was not sure, however, that the program fits with the focus areas. He added that the focus is on training people to start their own businesses, but their success rate is not much different from the small business success rate in the market.

Commissioner Oxrieder said she attended the fall human services joint meeting in Redmond and sat at a table with the leader of the Muslim community organization who talked about the very need the program is focused on.

Commissioner Mercer suggested that the program is not focused solely on the microloan element. They also have the eight-week community introductory business training courses. Apparently large numbers of people have attended those sessions, but only half of them develop their own businesses, and only half less than 25 percent have received microloans.

Commissioner Bruels said he would prefer to see an emphasis on empowerment. Instead of having classes on how to run a business, they should bring in people who are current microfinance clients to run self-help support groups.

With regard to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications, Ms. Leslie pointed out that ARCH did not apply, in part because the HUD timing rules make it very difficult to address affordable housing development.

Commissioner Mercer asked if the city could provide feedback to HUD about the urgent need for affordable housing and the fact that their rules are making it difficult to use CDBG funds for that purpose. Ms. O'Reilly said the city's lobbyist could have that conversation.

100. CDBG: City of Bellevue – Administration

Commissioner Kline called attention to the CDBG line item in the program revenue column on the budget page and pointed out that it does not agree with the total CDBG award amount column.

The Commissioners had no specific questions.

101. CDBG: City of Bellevue – Planning

The Commissioners had no specific questions.

102. CDBG: Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue

Commissioner Kline asked if the decision has already been made for the agency to purchase the building. Ms. Catalano said there are still some questions to be answered as part of the due diligence.

Commissioner Villar commented that according to the application the agency wants CDBG money as well as in-kind donations from the city.

103. CDBG: City of Bellevue – Major Home Repair Program

The Commissioners had no specific questions.

104. CDBG: Sound Generations – Minor Home Repair Program

The Commissioners had no specific questions.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Leslie said the city will pay for any Commissioner wanting to attend the Alliance of Eastside Agencies annual luncheon on June 1.

Ms. O'Reilly reminded the Commissioners about the June 7 Eastside Human Services Forum summer workshop focused on equity.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Leslie said the staff reviews will be ready for the Commission's next meeting where the second round review will begin.

9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Bruels. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Villar and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair McEachran adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Secretary to the Human Services Commission

Date

Chairperson of the Human Services Commission

Date