

The Human Services Commission approved these minutes on July 24, 2014

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

June 17, 2014

Bellevue City Hall

6:30 p.m.

City Council Conference Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Perelman, Commissioners Bruels, Beighle, Kline, McEachran, Plaskon, Villar

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Leslie, Alex O'Reilly, Joseph Adriano, Terry Smith, Jessamyn Findlay, Department of Parks and Community Services

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chair Perelman who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Plaskon who arrived at 6:37 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 20, 2014

Commissioner McEachran called attention to the review of Application 37, Eastside Friends of Seniors, on page 7 of the minutes and said he had not voiced concern that the executive director is a member of the Redmond City Council but rather had simply noted that fact.

Commissioner Kline noted that in the last paragraph on page 3 "could be put together use funding another program" should read "could be put to better use funding another program."

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Beighle. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bruels and it carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS - None

6. DISCUSSION

Chair Perelman explained that the first part of the meeting would be focused on the applications in the first two goal areas and getting answers to specific questions from agency representatives.

A. Round 2 - Review of Human Services Applications with Staff Reviews

Application 1: Catholic Community Services of King County - Emergency Assistance

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Bruels, James Tolbert with Catholic Community Services explained that the agency can no longer depend on funding from FEMA. There has also been an increase in the demand in services resulting in an increased number of families turned away. Those issues taken together are the reason the agency is seeking a substantial increase in funding from the city.

Application 2: Catholic Community Services of King County - Harrington House

Commissioner Beighle noted the agency had not fully answered the second question regarding whether or not family planning is included in the life skills training. Human Services Manager Emily Leslie said the answer given was that clients are provided with health education, including child spacing, and they are encouraged to discuss their healthcare needs.

Application 3: Congregations for the Homeless - Drop-in Center

David Johns Bowling with Congregations for the Homeless explained that the site is only guaranteed through May 2015. The agency is working with city staff on trying to identify a new location. A contingency plan has been put in place that includes constructing a shower and laundry trailer. He thanked the Commission for its past support. The program served over 700 unduplicated men in the community over the past year, though a couple of hundred are turned away annually and the waiting list has grown to six weeks.

Ms. Leslie asked about the additional request for outreach that was submitted separate from the application. Mr. Bowling said the agency has used a portion of its funding to employ someone focused on outreach for about 16 hours per week. The request for additional funds is aimed at increasing that employee's hours closer to full time.

Application 4: Congregations for the Homeless - Eastside Winter Shelter

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 5: Congregations for the Homeless - Housing & Shelter

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 6: Eastside Baby Corner - Meeting Basic Needs for Children

Helen Banks Routon, director of development and community relations, thanked the Commission for its support of human services and for its past funding of Eastside Baby Corner.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 7: Emergency Feeding Program of Seattle/King County

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 8: Friends of Youth - Homeless Youth Services

Commissioner Bruels said he was very pleased with the explanatory statement submitted by the agency.

Application 9: Friends of Youth - The Landing

Commissioner Bruels said it appeared to him the agency was seeking a significant increase from Bellevue on the hope that other communities would follow the city's lead.

Application 10: Hopelink - Emergency Food

Debra Grant, director of client services for Hopelink, thanked the Commission for its support.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 11: Hopelink - Emergency Services Financial Assistance

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 12: Hopelink - Housing

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 13: Hospitality House - Homeless Shelter

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 14: Imagine Housing - Francis Village

Molly Stathem, resident support supervisor with Imagine Housing, said the opening of Velocity in September was the reason for the increase in the ask.

Application 15: Imagine Housing - Resident Services

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 16: Kirkland Interfaith Transitions in Housing - Transitional Housing Program

Jennifer Barren, KITH executive director, thanked the Commission for its support.

Application 17: Lifelong AIDS Alliance - Chicken Soup Brigade

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 18: Refugee Women's Alliance - Basic Food

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 19: Renewal Food Bank

James Roolbark, volunteer board member, and Rich Belland, director, were present to answer questions.

Chair Perelman asked if the agency had already added an operations manager. Mr. Belland said it has not.

Commissioner McEachran asked how Renewal Food Bank interacts with other food banks on the Eastside. Mr. Belland said there is very little interaction with Hopelink, except that Hopelink does refer clients to Renewal Food Bank. On occasion an excess of perishables will be shared with Hopelink.

Mr. Belland noted that the agency was previously funded by World Impact Network but recently became a stand-alone 501(C)(3) housed at Highline Covenant Church.

Application 20: Salvation Army - Eastside

Commissioner Bruels asked if data is kept relative to the number of people turned away. Lt. Sierra Dwelle, administrator of Salvation Army Eastside, said a spreadsheet is kept but is not entered into the computer system. The estimation of

the increased need is anecdotal. The meal program serves anywhere from 50 to 70 people per night, which is above what the normal has been.

Commissioner McEachran asked about the agency's outreach to the Middle Eastern and Muslim populations. Ms. Dwelle said the after-school program, which is open to any nationality or religion, has seen an increase in children from families from those populations. Families are also benefiting from the Eastside Baby Corner program and are seeking food in addition to taking advantage of the after-school program.

Application 21: Senior Services - Meals on Wheels

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 22: Solid Ground - Housing Stability Project

Kira Zylstra, stabilization services director for Solid Ground, thanked the Commission for its continued support. She said Solid Ground administers the housing stability project in partnership with Hopelink and Catholic Community Services. The rising poverty levels and increasing issues with housing affordability has made it more important than ever to keep people in their homes.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 23: The Sophia Way - Eastside Winter Shelter

Karina O'Malley, interim executive director and a member of the board of directors for Sophia Way, said efforts are under way to hire a permanent executive director. The agency is also working with consultants to bring on an interim executive director by the end of the month.

Commissioner Bruels noted that the Commission has been following the happenings

at the agency very closely and with concern given that the agency is an important partner that serves a very vulnerable population. He asked what other than funding and staff support could be provided by the city. Ms. O'Malley said staff have been fantastic in offering support and ideas for how to approach the transition, and their efforts have been appreciated.

Ms. Leslie said the funders group would be meeting with representatives of Sophia Way soon to talk details along with the consultant.

Application 24: The Sophia Way - Sophia's Home

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 25: YWCA - Seattle/King County/Snohomish County - Family Village

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 26: Alliance of People with disAbilities - Youth Program

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 27: Alpha Supported Living Services

Answering a question asked by Chair Perelman, Jeremy Oslund, development director for Alpha Supported Living Services, said the agency had previously applied for funding from the city.

Application 28: Asian Counseling and Referral Service - Children, Youth and Families

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 29: Assistance League of the Eastside - Operation School Bell

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 30: Athletes for Kids

Teresa Bretl, executive director of Athletes for Kids, was present to answer questions.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 31: Bellevue School District - VIBES

Mary Ellen Zemlin, program coordinator, explained that the VIBES program recruits the mentors and tutors and does the screening and training. Because the department is the one department in the school district that does background screening, screening for all of the parent and grandparent volunteers are the responsibility of the department as well. For the parent and grandparent volunteers, the applications are screened and a quick background check is done. For the mentors and tutors, however, there is far more involved. In addition to the screening and training, an attempt is made to understand why the volunteers have come forward, what they have to offer, and what they hope to accomplish. That information is used in matching them with the schools. The program has grown dramatically from two coordinators splitting 27 schools. There are now 28 schools and the coordinators must know the principals and the staff and be aware enough of the different programs to know the best place for volunteers. A third coordinator is needed. The city has been a solid supporter of the grant-based program from its inception. The Bellevue Schools Foundation is also being asked for additional funding support.

Application 32: Bellevue School District - Human Services

LeAnn Tuupo and Betty Takahashi were present to answer questions.

Chair Perelman asked what data supports the request for a significant increase in funding. Ms. Tuupo said she had been asked to put together the big picture of the work done by the Family Connection Center. She noted that three years ago when she began working for the organization the human services grant was for 15 hours of staffing to cover five schools. It was realized that with the changing poverty levels and the significant number of families just on the brink of qualifying for programs such as the free and reduced lunch program, additional funding would be needed to bring the staffing hours up to 30 hours per week. The other schools in the district with families in need of support were simply not being addressed. The program has been developed into ten Family Connection Centers, six at elementary schools, two at middle schools, and two at high schools, each with their own staffing. The program is the link between the families and the services they need. In the ten highest-need schools there are Family Connection Centers, but in addition to that Title 1 funding is used along with funding from the State Learning Assistance Program, the Bellevue School District, and the Bellevue Schools Foundation to leverage all of the different supports that are received by Title 1 schools. The Family Connection Center and human services specialists are just one piece of the puzzle.

Chair Perelman asked what steps would be taken if Bellevue chose not to fund the application. Ms. Tuupo said it would be necessary to reduce staffing and to creatively think outside the box. The families that need services and the needs will not be going away.

Commissioner Beighle asked if there is redundancy in the system relative to Wraparound Services. Ms. Tuupo said there is one Wraparound Services staff person at Lake Hills and one person at Stevenson serving in an umbrella approach. They seek out the medical and dental organizations and connect them to the staff in

the family connection centers, and the human service liaisons are connecting the families to the work.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Beighle, Assistant Director Terry Smith said it was not the city that made the suggestion that an evaluation is needed to avoid redundancy. If the school district has a different focus or has changed directions, the city will be more than happy to reevaluate what resources it contributes. Ms. Tuupo said the call for a reevaluation was not meant to have a negative tone but rather was focused on replicating in other schools what is working.

Commissioner Bruels asked if there is enough evidence of increased need to match the level of increase being sought by the application. He said the data he has seen does not offer sufficient support. Ms. Tuupo said the data collected for the human services was from only five schools. Had the data been collected from all ten of the centers, the picture would have been more informative.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner McEachran, Ms. Tuupo said Bellevue Lifespring does the Breaktime/Mealtime program. The staff in the schools identifies the families in need of the program, gets them signed up with Lifespring, and when the food boxes arrive delivers them to the families. Operation School Bell staff finds the families that need the clothing services and connect them to the program.

Ms. Takahashi said previously the Family Connection Program services were available only in five schools. In an effort to make sure all students in all schools have access to the services, an expansion is needed.

Commissioner Villar asked what percentage of the proposed increase will be used to replace state and federal dollars, and what will be used to build the program. Ms. Tuupo said only one 40-hour position would be an increase; the rest is replacement.

Application 33: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound - One-to-One

Mentoring Program

Tiffany Washington, chief program officer, and Nick Bowen, grants manager, were present to answer questions.

Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly called attention to information regarding the application that was provided to the Commissioners in their desk packets.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 34: Catholic Community Services of King County - Volunteer Chore Services

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 35: Chinese Information and Service Center - Cultural Navigator Program

Paula Matthyse, program coordinator, was present to answer questions. She noted that information in the form of an email had been circulated to the Commissioners addressing the statement about being an intervention program. She said there are preventative touchstones in the program as well. The program is creative and responsive. The staff are trained in understanding traumatic stress and adverse childhood experiences; they help people look at their resilience and assist them in building personal safety nets and become contributing members of their community.

Commissioner Bruels asked about the intent to expand the program into Issaquah and Kent. Ms. Matthyse said requests have been made to those cities for funding. A Somali population in Bellevue and to the south of Bellevue has been identified. Program FTEs would need to be increased to address the expansion. Services in languages other than English are also in need of expansion.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Bruels, Ms. Matthyse said the program does not turn anyone away. There has been a switch to a model that counts the amount of time spent with program participants. Because the needs have become more complex, more time is being spent with each individual. There are some who the program has not been able to serve because of location. The transportation cuts will have a huge impact as well.

Commissioner Bruels stated that the data submitted with the application does not provide evidence of increased need in Bellevue. The expansion into Issaquah and Kent will trigger increased expenses for the program. Ms. Matthyse said there is an unserved Somali population in Bellevue but the program does not have a Somali navigator.

Ms. Matthyse thanked the Commission for funding human services and for putting the health of the community first.

Application 36: Crisis Clinic - King County 2-1-1

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 37: Eastside Friends of Seniors

Hank Myers and Jack Staudt were present representing the agency.

Ms. O'Reilly called attention to a corrected review of the application.

Commissioner McEachran asked what collaborative impact the agency has with other organizations and faith communities in Bellevue. Mr. Staudt said while the first quarter statistics for Bellevue were not included in the quarterly reports, the program is about a third of the way toward its 2015 performance metrics estimates of trips

provided and hours worked. The program has moved into Bellevue and is working with a lot of parishes and congregations, particularly in east Bellevue where there statistics have shown there is a large confluence of both elderly citizens and citizens living below the poverty line. A prominent Catholic church recently met with the organization about working with their volunteer group on a social outreach project.

Chair Perelman asked about the line item for tools and materials for Bellevue projects. Mr. Staudt said the item includes consumables such as paint and scrapers but not tools such as chain saws, pressure washers and carpet shampooers.

Application 38: Eastside Legal Assistance Program - Legal Services

Stan Kehl, director of the Eastside Legal Assistance Program, was present to answer questions. He took a moment to describe a new program for which funding was being sought. He explained that there is a dramatic need for services for domestic violence survivors and the agency has come up with an innovative way that will almost double the number of survivors served. New lawyers fresh out of law school who will not be going to work for a large law firm because they want to set up a small family law practice will be tapped and asked to volunteer 20 hrs. per week for a year. By volunteering they will be trained in how to become top-notch family law attorneys serving domestic violence survivors. It will be a win-win for all concerned. The pooled cities are all being asked for a ten percent increase in the funding allocation to help fund the expansion program.

Application 39: Friends of Youth - Healthy Start

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 40: Hopelink - Family Development Program

Meghan Altimore was present to answer questions for the agency.

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 41: King County Bar Foundation - Pro Bono Services

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 42: Together Center

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 43: Youth Eastside Services - Early Intervention

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 44: Youth Eastside Services - Response to Youth

The Commissioners had no questions.

Application 45: Youth Eastside Services - Success Mentoring

The Commissioners had no questions.

****BREAK****

Mr. Smith said there simply are not enough resources within the city to support all of the programs at the requested levels. The questions asked by the Commission about what the agencies can do in collaboration with others to respond to the need have been important. The Commission will, however, have to make some very difficult decisions. Just funding the increased need at the basic levels would likely take all of the new dollars. Clearly addressing the needs in the community will require working jointly toward effecting a collective impact.

Commissioner McEachran noted that during his first year on the Commission the operative mantra was focused on the economic downturn. The current funding cycle includes requests for expanding some programs. While that is a good thing, the Commission may need to be brave enough to say no in order to bulk up on core programs with known track records of bringing about successes in the community.

Grant Coordinator Joseph Adriano said the projected COLA, based on inflation plus population is 3.36 percent.

The Commissioners worked through the applications in the first two goal areas and suggested preliminary funding levels for each.

Application 1: Catholic Community Services of King County - Emergency Assistance

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$25,000.

Application 2: Catholic Community Services of King County - Harrington House

Commissioner Beighle proposed not funding the program. She noted that the number of Bellevue residents served annually is very low and pointed out that there are other programs serving the population.

Ms. Leslie said she had met with Bill Hallerman from Catholic Community Services and a meeting is planned between him and Colleen Kelly from Redmond. Consideration is being given to changing the model for Harrington House in light of the family homelessness initiative and all the changes that are taking place relative to the need for emergency shelter for homeless families. A facility has been identified

that might lend itself better to emergency shelter. As envisioned, the program would still be serving homeless families with children, but not necessarily unwed mothers. More information will be available before the allocation process is completed.

Commissioner Plaskon asked if the model change would affect the oversight board. Ms. Leslie said that is something that would have to be asked.

Mr. Adriano pointed out that the argument that the program serves only a limited number of Bellevue residents could potentially be true of all the transitional housing programs because of the way the Family Housing Connection now works. Under the new coordinated entry system through the Committee to End Homelessness, which is actually a federal requirement, the homeless family initiative seeks to convert the huge stock of transitional housing into emergency housing. Homeless families must go through the single coordinated entry system and must meet certain criteria. The result has been that some agencies are seeing families from all over the place and Bellevue families are presumably getting placed elsewhere in the system. The Committee to End Homelessness recognizes that some changes in the way the family housing connection is working given the huge demand and the fact that people are not moving through quickly enough. Consultants are being brought in to identify possible operational changes.

Commissioner Beighle commented that because the Eastside has a lower percentage of homeless persons compared to other cities, there will be fewer Bellevue residents served under the new approach. Ms. Leslie said that is certainly potentially true and is something that has been pointed out to the program. Because there are some other safety supports on the Eastside, there are fewer literally homeless persons, thus Bellevue families are in essence getting penalized. Many agencies are concerned about all the changes that are happening in the middle of the funding cycle.

The recommendation of the Commission was to table the application until more

information is in hand.

Application 3: Congregations for the Homeless - Drop-in Center

Chair Perelman suggested no increase for the application given that the program does not have a permanent location. There are already a number of people on the waiting list and additional outreach may not be critical.

Commissioner Beighle said she was not concerned about the agency finding a new location or about its ability to serve those in need.

Commissioner Kline added that the city can always place a contingency on the award. Ms. Leslie agreed and commented that in a meeting between the agency and the funding cities it was noted that ultimately the drop-in center will be part of the permanent shelter ARCH is working on; what the agency needs is an interim location. The city of Issaquah is looking seriously at helping to fund outreach so they may be able to help with the \$15,000 requested for outreach.

Commissioner Bruels said he could support full funding. The consensus opinion favored the proposal of Commissioner Beighle to fund only half of the requested increase.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$35,386.

Application 4: Congregations for the Homeless - Eastside Winter Shelter

Ms. Leslie explained that she put in a budget request for an additional \$50,000 to cover utility and repair costs for the facility, and the agency built that into its request. The budget process has ranked the request fairly high but no dollars have been earmarked for it yet.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$90,359.

Application 5: Congregations for the Homeless - Housing & Shelter

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$96,679.

Application 6: Eastside Baby Corner - Meeting Basic Needs for Children

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$29,504.

Application 7: Emergency Feeding Program of Seattle/King County

Commissioner Villar called attention to the audit and the fact that the agency did not follow accounting principles for the emergency feeding program. Their cash flows have not been determined because of the way the accounting has been handled.

Commissioner McEachran stated for the record that a major segment of the operation is based at his church. He said they have a new warehouse in Renton and said there may be some change in the executive director's ability to follow procedures more efficiently.

Commissioner Kline said it would be helpful to know how material the accounting issue is. Commissioner Plaskon said the total program budget is close to \$700,000 and it should be a concern if they are not following general accounting principles. Commissioner Kline said the application references a review opinion rather than an actual audit. Ms. Leslie pointed out that the issue may have been resolved in the 2013 audit. There was agreement to ask for clarification from the agency.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$11,000.

Application 8: Friends of Youth - Homeless Youth Services

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$88,343.

Application 9: Friends of Youth - The Landing

Commissioner Bruels proposed approving only half the requested increase. He said he was still unclear as to why the personnel costs were increasing. The application also makes it clear that the agency wants more money from Bellevue as a way of encouraging other funders to increase their allocations; while that is a fair argument, it only goes so far.

The Commission preliminarily recommended \$37,678.

Application 10: Hopelink - Emergency Food

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$48,300.

Application 11: Hopelink - Emergency Services Financial Assistance

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$29,780.

Application 12: Hopelink - Housing

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$83,500.

Application 13: Hospitality House - Homeless Shelter

The Commission reiterated its initial conclusion not to fund the application.

Application 14: Imagine Housing - Francis Village

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$10,325.

Application 15: Imagine Housing - Resident Services

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$17,770.

Application 16: Kirkland Interfaith Transitions in Housing - Transitional Housing Program

Commissioner Villar expressed concern about the increase of 19.6 percent in managerial and fund raising expenses.

There was agreement to fund the application with a COLA increase only.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application at \$7713.

Application 17: Lifelong AIDS Alliance - Chicken Soup Brigade

The Commission reiterated its initial conclusion not to fund the application.

Application 18: Refugee Women's Alliance - Basic Food

Chair Perelman said she continued to have concerns regarding the program's structure.

Commissioner Bruels said the staff review indicates the program is performing. He suggested the application does not make the case for the increase in the ask and said he could support funding the application with a COLA increase. Commissioner Beighle concurred.

Chair Perelman proposed holding the program funding flat and there was agreement to do so.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application at \$22,245.

Application 19: Renewal Food Bank

Commissioner Beighle said her preference would be to not fund the application and use the funds for another food bank program. Commissioner McEachran said he could agree to taking that approach, saying he continued to have questions about the organization and was not satisfied with the response relative to the program's collaborative impact.

Chair Perelman agreed and said she was not convinced that adding another person in operations would be the right approach.

Commissioner Beighle allowed that during her visit to the site she observed that there was not much activity.

Commissioner Plaskon pointed out that those being served by the program will not

simply go away if the program is defunded. The likelihood is that the clients would turn to other programs to have their food needs met.

Commissioner Kline noted that the program was first funded in 2009 and asked what the initial motivation was. Ms. Leslie said Hopelink was cutting back at that point and the Renewal Food Bank at the time tended to serve more of a refugee and immigrant population. The demand was great and people from Hopelink was coming to the Renewal program on the days Hopelink was not open. The Renewal model, which was different at the time, has since been adopted by Hopelink. The program has been going through some transitions since splitting from its parent organization, including a new location. The program essentially is a new non-profit trying to get its feet on the ground.

Commissioner Kline suggested the question is whether or not the agency is critical to the community. If not, they should just be defunded, but if yes, cutting them off completely will not teach them a lesson.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application at \$7755 and to highlight it for additional discussion.

Application 20: Salvation Army - Eastside

Commissioner Beighle said her primary argument in the past regarding the program was that there has been no consistency in leadership. The fact that the agency will be leaving leadership unchanged for five to seven years is a positive move.

Chair Perelman expressed caution regarding the statement in the application that the increase is based on anecdotal evidence. Commissioner Bruels agreed and pointed out that the agency is not collecting hard data.

Commissioner Beighle observed that the application no longer seeks funding for the

agency's youth services in which religion is taught.

Commissioner Bruels said he did not doubt there is an increased need, but absent hard data the case has not been made. He said he could support funding half of the proposed increase.

There was agreement the agency should be collecting and submitting data regarding the number of persons turned away and the demographics of the persons served.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application at \$25,923, and to direct the agency not to use the funds for the youth services program.

Application 21: Senior Services - Meals on Wheels

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$15,045.

Application 22: Solid Ground - Housing Stability Project

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$45,090.

Application 23: The Sophia Way - Eastside Winter Shelter

Commissioner McEachran observed that in the May 6, 2014, minutes of the Commission meeting he was quoted as saying the organization has been stabilized through the efforts of the executive director, who among other things, increased the level of board commitments. He said that statement is no longer accurate.

Ms. Leslie commented that the Commission would need further discussion about the

application after the funders meet with the agency. She said the funders are concerned that the agency has advertised for a full-time executive director when they were strongly encouraged to hire a professional interim executive director to come in and get the organization stabilized.

Commissioner Villar voiced concern about having the interim executive director also serving on the board.

Ms. O'Reilly said at the first meeting with the funders, the agency representatives indicated their consultant had recommended that they hire an executive director at a substantially increased salary. The fact is the organization is struggling to pay for its daily operations.

Ms. Leslie added that the agency is facing a major deficit situation based on the financial information that has been provided to the funders.

There was agreement to flag the application for additional discussion.

Application 24: The Sophia Way - Sophia's Home

There was agreement to flag the application for additional discussion.

Application 25: YWCA - Seattle/King County/Snohomish County - Family Village

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application with a COLA increase for a total of \$51,680.

Application 26: Alliance of People with disAbilities - Youth Program

Ms. O'Reilly commented that whether or not the application is funded, the

Commission should appreciate the fact that the agency has finally listened to the city's call to be more collaborative in the community. A new executive director came on board just a few months ago and has shown a very good effort in working with the Bellevue School District and other organizations.

Chair Perelman noted that the Commission previously had questioned why the organization would ask the city for only \$5000 when the agency's overall budget is close to \$700,000.

Commissioner Bruels also pointed out that the program is somewhat duplicative of the very similar program offered by AtWork!

Commissioner Beighle said the previous applications from the agency were turned down largely because of the focus on programs directly relating to the economic downturn.

Chair Perelman observed that the results shown in the application are not very measurable.

In deciding not to fund the application, the Commission recognized the gains that have been made by the agency in the direction of collaboration.

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

Application 27: Alpha Supported Living Services

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

Application 28: Asian Counseling and Referral Service - Children, Youth and Families

Ms. O'Reilly provided the Commissioners with an updated version of the staff report correcting the year operations were started by the agency in Bellevue.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application with a COLA increase for a total of \$64,336.

Application 29: Assistance League of the Eastside - Operation School Bell

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$12,000.

Application 30: Athletes for Kids

Ms. O'Reilly provided the Commissioners with copies of an email from the agency that included comments on the staff review.

Chair Perelman said the program is excellent but does not fall into the Commission's funding priorities.

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

Application 31: Bellevue School District - VIBES

Commissioner Bruels said he would support fully funding the application.

Commissioner Beighle said she would not go that far but would support giving it more than a COLA increase.

Chair Perelman pointed out that nothing in the program costs on the second page of the application supports an increase of 66 percent over the previous funding level. She agreed the program is excellent but questioned why a large increase would be needed when most associated with it are volunteers.

Ms. O'Reilly said it has consistently been difficult to understand why the program does not seek other funding than from the city and the Bellevue Schools Foundation.

Commissioner Bruels observed that the increased funding is aimed at adding one FTE. He suggested funding a portion of the increase.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application with a 25 percent increase totaling \$39,929.

Application 32: Bellevue School District - Human Services

Commissioner Bruels said he would support no more than a COLA increase. He said the application simply did not make the case for an increase of nearly 628 percent.

Mr. Smith suggested there is a broader discussion the community needs to have. The application talks about community schools, which is a completely different program from what the city previously funded. The proposal is for the Bellevue School District to operate community schools and for the city to provide funding for that rather than for a human services specialist. The city intends to talk with the district about the big picture of how community schools should be funded, who should fund them, and at what level. The staff want to know specifically what the intent of the district is relative to wraparound services. Essentially, the model the district is talking about is the same one proposed by the city about seven years ago regarding the vision of what wraparound could do by taking a holistic approach. It is, however, good to see the district saying there is value in a community schools approach to collective impact and cradle to career.

Commissioner Kline noted that the wraparound program is funded by the city with non human services dollars. Mr. Smith said the city funds two FTEs and some program support as well. The human service specialist collaborates with the program

and provides a lot of referrals, connect with community providers, and helps the school operate from the perspective of the collaborative piece. It would appear the district intends to expand that role to do even more of what the human services positions were doing.

Commissioner Bruels asked what evidence the district has to support the current model is not sufficient, or that the model being proposed is that much better. Mr. Smith said he did not have any details other than the district and the wraparound service coordinators went to a national community and schools conference in April. More will be known after city staff meets with district staff. Commissioner Bruels suggested that absent more information the prudent approach would be to hold the application funding flat.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to keep funding for the application flat at \$62,897.

Application 33: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound - One-to-One Mentoring Program

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

Application 34: Catholic Community Services of King County - Volunteer Chore Services

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$13,000.

Application 35: Chinese Information and Service Center - Cultural Navigator Program

Commissioner Bruels said while it would be valuable for the program to expand to

other cities, he suggested it is not something the city can afford in the current funding cycle. He proposed giving the application a COLA increase.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application with a COLA for a total of \$61,987.

Application 36: Crisis Clinic - King County 2-1-1

Chair Perelman asked if the Commission could choose to keep the funding level flat for the application even though that would be more than the requested amount. Mr. Adriano said that precedent was set by the Commission in a previous funding cycle.

Commissioner Kline suggested the agency should be contacted to see if the reduction in funding sought was intentional.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application at the current level of \$26,367.

Application 37: Eastside Friends of Seniors

Commissioner McEachran said he was not convinced of the need for the program. Commissioner Bruels agreed and suggested that the Volunteer Chore Service program does more for less.

Chair Perelman said the standalone program generates a significant amount of overhead. The Volunteer Chore Service program is well established. Commissioner Kline agreed but suggested that if there is need beyond what Volunteer Chore Service and provide, and if the new agency is willing to take up the slack, funding the application could be money well spent.

Commissioner Bruels said there are just too many maybes and variables with regard

to operating in Bellevue. Commissioner McEachran allowed that the program is very strong on the Plateau and in Sammamish and Issaquah.

Chair Perelman observed that the agency was seeking more money from Bellevue than from other cities.

Commissioner Bruels suggested the program will be back during the next funding cycle by which time it might be in a better position to be funded.

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

There also was agreement to send a message to the agency suggesting it should connect with an organization that is already in place in Bellevue and to work with it collaboratively. Ms. O'Reilly said the program will be one to watch in another two years given the significant strides made by the new executive director in just the two months he has been on board.

Application 38: Eastside Legal Assistance Program - Legal Services

Commissioner McEachran noted that the agency's executive director and a board member appeared before the City Council recently to thank the city for past funding of the program, and to indicate they were seeking only a ten percent increase.

Commissioner Bruels said the program offers a huge bang for the buck. It leverages a large amount of other services and prevents a number of crises for families down the road.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$26,605.

Application 39: Friends of Youth - Healthy Start

Commissioner Bruels observed from the application that the increase sought is related to demographics and higher numbers, but the demographics and service units reported were flat. He recommended only a COLA increase.

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fund the application with a COLA increase for a total of \$21,368.

Application 40: Hopelink - Family Development Program

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$40,000.

Application 41: King County Bar Foundation - Pro Bono Services

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$10,000.

Application 42: Together Center

The Commission reiterated its initial recommendation not to fund the application.

Application 43: Youth Eastside Services - Early Intervention

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$158,137.

Application 44: Youth Eastside Services - Response to Youth

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$36,630.

Application 45: Youth Eastside Services - Success Mentoring

The Commission's preliminary recommendation was to fully fund the requested amount of \$19,500.

7. OLD BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. O'Reilly reported that intern Jessamyn Findlay was attending her last Commission meeting. She reported that Ms. Findlay graduated on June 12 and is actively seeking employment.

9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Perelman adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Secretary to the Human Services Commission	Date
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Chairperson of the Human Services Commission	Date
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