

*The Human Services Commission approved these minutes on July 7, 2016*

CITY OF BELLEVUE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
MINUTES

June 7, 2016  
6:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall  
City Council Conference Room 1E-113

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Oxrieder

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

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 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 Kline, who arrived at 6:09 p.m., and Commissioner Oxrieder, who was excused.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 3, 2016

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

B. May 17, 2016

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

#### 4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Vicky Issa, Executive Director for Community Homes, said the agency was founded in Bellevue 21 years ago. The residents are adults with developmental disabilities who need some support with their activities of daily living, including meal preparation, shopping and hygiene. They have great capacity for learning and the agency emphasizes helping them engage in the community and in lifelong learning. Accordingly, they talk about things like dressing appropriately for work, how to ride the bus, and how to interact with people in the community. They can often be seen in the community doing various things. There is currently a real scarcity of community based housing for persons with developmental disabilities.

Mr. Jerry Kroon, Executive Director of the Eastside Legal Assistance Program, thanked the Commission for its continued support. The program has unfortunately seen phenomenal growth over the past couple of years; client intake has increased by 34 percent. Of the almost 1200 cases closed in 2015, close to 400 were domestic violence, and of those, over 380 had an element of sexual assault and violence. The need is clear and the program will unfortunately not run out of clients any time soon. As the population has become more diverse, the challenges have become greater relative to language and issues of culture. Funding for the program is being widely sought.

#### 5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

There was agreement to move staff and commission reports to the end of the meeting.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

##### A. Human Services Funding Application Review: Goals 1 and 2 with Staff Reviews

##### 1. Andrews House Washington: Andrews House

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

##### 2. Attain Housing: Transitional Housing/Welcome Home

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

##### 3. Catholic Community Services: Eastside Winter Shelter for Families

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

4. Catholic Community Services: Emergency Assistance

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

5. Catholic Community Services: New Bethlehem Day Center for Families

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

6. Congregations for the Homeless: Drop In Center
7. Congregations for the Homeless: Eastside Winter Shelter
8. Congregations for the Homeless: Housing & Shelter
9. Congregations for the Homeless: Housing
10. Congregations for the Homeless: Outreach

Mr. David Bowling with Congregations for the Homeless thanked the Commission for its support of the Eastside Winter Shelter, which closed the morning of May 16 after eight months of continuous low-barrier shelter operations. The shelter averaged 74 persons per night for a total of more than 16,000 bednights. Some 630 individuals were served by the program. Part time case management was offered on site for the first time ever; case management is key to the work of building relationships and connecting people to needed resources.

Commissioner Perelman asked what is being done in the interim to reach out to those who were served. Mr. Bowling said the agency has an outreach worker in the community throughout the week. Additionally, a team of people are visiting the downtown Bellevue library a couple of times per week and the men served are coming there to get support.

Commissioner Bruels said it was his understanding that the increase in the ask for the outreach program was to add an FTE. Mr. Bowling confirmed that and said the reason is the increase in demand. Unfortunately, homelessness issues do not seem to be going in a favorable direction, and the sooner persons experiencing homeless can be contacted, the more can be done for them. If the increase is not granted, it will not be possible to divert as many people out of homelessness.

Ms. Leslie clarified that in the past the various programs of Congregations for the Homeless were combined into a single application. For the current round, they have been split into separate applications.

Commissioner Villar asked if under a worst case scenario the day center is not able to be open by the beginning of 2017, the current day center person would continue to be working outreach. Mr. Bowling said that would need to be a topic of conversation with the funders. Having a day center in operation is one of the agency's highest priorities and the partnerships that have been formed are exciting. Hopefully the issue will be resolved well before the end of the year.

11. Community Homes, Inc.: Community Homes

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

12. Eastside Baby Corner: Meeting Basic Needs for Children

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

13. Emergency Feeding Program: Emergency Feeding Program

Chair McEachran asked why the number of clients listed in the demographics form are lower than the clients reported in the outcomes. Ms. Marlene Poland explained that the outcomes are recorded from the intake cards. If the clients do not include certain demographic information, it cannot be recorded. Mr. Glenn Turner added that the statistical information is based on the signed intake forms; several intake forms go out but not all of them come back.

Chair McEachran said the application shows multiple sites where food is delivered in Bellevue and asked if there are numbers available for each site. Mr. Turner said that the number of bags delivered to each site is available in the database.

Commissioner Bruels noted from the application that the increased ask in part is based on the need to deliver to clients living on the outskirts of the community and asked how many of those clients are in the city limits of Bellevue. Mr. Turner said approximately 12 to 15 percent of them are in the Bellevue city limits.

Grant Coordinator Dee Dee Catalano asked about the reports received regarding the difficulties associated with getting food packs to school district sites. Mr. Turner said since 2012 a total of ten bags in two orders have been delivered to the Family Connection Center. He said it was discouraging to hear them say they have had trouble connecting with the Emergency Feeding Program when in fact they have not put in orders.

Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly asked if the program goes back to clients that typically order to find out why they have ceased ordering. Mr. Turner said surveys are conducted systemwide, though only about eight percent are returned. He added that the organization is limited in that it receives the smallest amount of revenue from the municipalities, federal government and private sources while serving from north Pierce County to south Lynnwood.

Ms. Catalano asked what the procedure is if the school district staff wants a food bag. Mr. Turner said every distribution partner is provided with forms to fill out indicating what they want delivered. The forms are then faxed, mailed or emailed to the agency.

Chair McEachran asked if the agency keeps in regular touch with the 13 distribution sites in Bellevue to make sure any particular area is not being oversaturated. Mr.

Turner said the agency is working on that. Consideration is given to the size of geographical areas and the number of people served to avoid oversaturation and to understand where more could be served. Bellevue is currently somewhat oversaturated, but many of the distribution organizations in Bellevue are also serving people outside the community.

#### 14. Friends of Youth: Homeless Young Adult Housing

Chair McEachran asked for clarification with regard to in which properties Bellevue young adults are served. Mr. Derek Wentorf said all of the programs serve Bellevue residents as they are referred. The housing programs all go through the countywide coordinated entry system. There is, however, no guarantee regarding where clients will be placed throughout the community.

Chair McEachran noted the program outcomes were being changed. Mr. Wentorf said one thing the agency is wrestling with relative to coordinated entry is that there are a gamut of different things folks are prepared for when entering into the program. Coordinated entry has its benefits but it also has drawbacks, including the fact that the agency is never sure who will be referred to the programs and if they will be ready and willing to engage in different ways. It is hoped that the success numbers will far exceed 50 percent, but it remains unclear how coordinated entry for all will impact the programs in the coming year.

Commissioner Villar asked how long it takes to turn over the space to the next person once someone leaves Friends of Youth housing. Mr. Wentorf said there are a number of ways clients can leave a program. If the leave is planned and there is time to prepare for it, the process of getting someone ready for the unit can be started proactively. If someone leaves unexpectedly, the turnover can take longer given the referral process associated with coordinated entry.

Commissioner Kline asked what is the longest a unit has stayed vacant while waiting for a new resident. Mr. Wentorf said over the last year there have been one or two units that were unoccupied for a month or two.

Commissioner Perelman asked if the open units could be used for emergency shelter while waiting for a new occupant. Mr. Wentorf said the process to undertake that approach would be incredibly difficult. Commissioner Perelman asked if the shelter is usually full. The answer given by Ms. Jill Braun was that the over 18 shelter has a capacity of 20 and the census has been trending at about 17 to 18, though there is an ebb and flow that follows the seasons.

Commissioner Perelman noted from the application that Friends of Youth is seeking to expand the drop-in center to Saturdays and Sundays. She asked if that move will be made if funding from the city is not approved. Ms. Braun said everything is in place and ready to go because all that is involved is increased staffing. The move is

responsive to what the young people have identified as their greatest service need, and to a community concern about young people hanging around businesses, coffee shops and libraries. If funding is not received, the weekend hours will not be provided.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Bruels, Mr. Wentorf said prior to the coordinated entry system, placement was more based on relationships. That is where the outreach and case management efforts benefited the programs. Overall, the coordinated entry system is trying to level the playing field for all individuals experiencing homelessness in the communities. The tradeoff, however, is that the relationship element gets lost.

Commissioner Villar observed that there are multiple programs serving youth throughout the county, and the outreach specialist is building relationships with the youth. Under the coordinated entry system, the kids may be formulating a relationship with one outreach coordinator but may then be placed in some other service provider's facility, making it necessary to start all over again in building a relationship, increasing the risk that they will give up and leave. Mr. Wentorf concurred and added that the goal is to try and figure out how the support networks for each individual can follow them, but those details are yet to be worked out.

Commissioner Kline asked if the folks that get in without having a previous relationship with the agency have a relationship elsewhere. Mr. Wentorf said it is a rare occasion when the youth do not have some kind of social service connection. Friends of Youth works to figure out if there are other supports they can bring in, but even that process requires starting from square one in getting to know the client, and it is their call on how much they want to reveal and it takes time. It is also unrealistic to continue relationships that began in Auburn once someone is placed in Bellevue.

#### 15. Friends of Youth: Homeless Youth Outreach and Drop-in Support

Chair McEachran asked why fundraising for the program was not increased instead of asking the cities for more to cover the costs. Ms. Braun said Friends of Youth does fundraise for its homeless programs. That is particularly important given that the Pro Youth funds will be going away at the end of the calendar year. The provision of services will be impacted. Application of the fundraising efforts is made once the monies are secured. Mr. Wentorf added that Pro Youth is a collaborative that has been funded across the community. King County and other funders are still trying to figure out how to fund it, but without a solution in hand all agencies that rely on the funds are having to make the difficult decisions.

#### 16. Friends of Youth: Shelter for Youth and Young Adults

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

## 17. Hopelink: Emergency Services Financial Assistance

Commissioner Bruels asked for comment regarding the change in the funding formula. Ms. Meghan Altimore said about 12 years ago Hopelink did applications based on what the predecessors had asked for. There was in fact no rhyme or reason tied to the numbers served or anything like that. The data has grown strong enough that it is time to change that. A strong unit cost has been developed for each of the program areas. The number of participants served in the city was multiplied by either 25 percent for food and emergency financial assistance, or by 50 percent for adult education, family development and employment. The increased ask is admittedly substantial and the agency is not assuming it will be fully granted, but setting a methodology across all of the applications has been an important exercise.

Commissioner Bruels asked if the programs had previously been operating at a deficit. Ms. Altimore said the agency always has a significant fundraising burden across the board and raises some \$5.4 million per year for all of the programs. There is recognition of the need to have a diverse funding picture relative to raising funds from the private and public sectors. To some extent the result is shifting some of the burden to contracts with the cities.

Commissioner Kline asked what components went into computing the unit costs. Ms. Altimore said the budget included in the application does not include Hopelink's overall management, except for the basic percentage the agency puts in for overhead. Each of the budgets includes the costs allocated to each of the programs. For instance, for the emergency financial assistance program, the budget includes its share of the costs of the buildings it is in, the staff assigned to the program, and its allocated share of the human resources total. The total is then divided by the number of people to be served in the year to yield the unit cost.

## 18. Hopelink: Emergency Food

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

## 19. Hopelink: Housing

Chair McEachran pointed out that the number for Bellevue in the 2017 city funded column is greater than the total number in the 2017 projected column for both residents served and service units. Ms. Altimore said with implementation of the coordinated entry system, All Home, which previously was known as the Committee to End Homelessness, asked that homelessness be viewed as a regional issue, and asked agencies to serve any family referred to them. Over the last year Hopelink has seen an increase in the number of families that were being served from North and East King County, including the city of Bellevue. On June 6, the City Council approved converting the Hopelink location to permanent housing; with that, Hopelink will be withdrawing from the Family Housing Connection for that property, making it

possible to prioritize clients from North and East King County. The result is likely to be an increase in the number of families served from those areas.

21. Imagine Housing: Resident Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

22. LifeWire: LifeWire - Housing Stability

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

23. Renewal Food Bank: Renewal Food Bank

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

25. Solid Ground: Cooking Matters

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

26. Solid Ground: Housing Stability Project

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

27. Sound Generations: Meals on Wheels

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

28. The Salvation Army: Eastside

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

29. The Sophia Way: Eastside Winter Shelter

Ms. Angela Murray noted that the shelter closed on May 30, having extended it for 15 days owing to some additional fundraising with the congregation of Overlake Park Presbyterian Church which houses the shelter. It was a good season overall, and funding from Bellevue was appreciated.

Commissioner Mercer asked what budget contingencies are in place for next year. Ms. Murray said the budget projections were based on the operating budgets for the last two years during which Catholic Community Services subcontracted with Sophia Way. The budgets were drawn up in conjunction with Bill Hallerman of Catholic Community Services. Most of the costs are for staff and the need to have two people in place at all times the shelter is open. It costs on the order of \$25,000 per month to run the emergency shelter based on hard data for the period October 15 to May 15.

There is no anticipation that the capacity will be exceeded in the coming year provided the shelter serves only single women.

Ms. Leslie asked where the sites will be next year for the women's winter shelter. Ms. Murray said she is working on that issue. Overlake Park Presbyterian has agreed to site both the families and the women at their church for the last part of the 2016-2017 winter season. Churches that have previously hosted the shelter will be contacted.

30. The Sophia Way: Sophia's Place Shelter Program

Chair McEachran asked about the agency's plans to fundraise for the program. Ms. Murray noted that only 47 percent of the agency's overall funding come from the public sector. That has decreased as the agency has been able to increase its donor base and private contributions. The agency does have some fundraising events planned.

31. The Sophia Way: Women's Day Center

Commissioner Bruels said it was his understanding the increase in the ask was to facilitate having the day center open on the weekends. Ms. Murray confirmed that and noted that homelessness does not end on the weekend. She said the shelter hours starting in January were extended from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. without triggering a significant increase in staffing. The new hours did, however, trigger an increase in the cost for bus tickets. The board of directors has long wanted to see the center operating seven days a week.

32. YWCA: Family Village

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

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

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

34. Alpha Supported Living Services: Alpha Supported Living Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

35. Assistance League the Eastside: Operation School Bell

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

### 36. Athletes For Kids: Athletes For Kids

Ms. O'Reilly provided the Commissioners with copies of additional information from the agency, specifically the annual outcomes report and an email clarifying the cost per unit.

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

### 37. Bellevue School District: Human Services

Chair McEachran asked if the program has any plan to find other funding sources for the program other than the city of Bellevue and the Bellevue School District. Ms. Traci Meyers explained that as a public school institution, the ability to fundraise is limited. The district receives general instruction revenues from the state and funds from the Bellevue Schools Foundation.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Mercer, Ms. Meyers said the program was expanded to have the Family Connection Centers staffed during school hours. The hours are based on need so some schools have more and some have less. All schools have human service points of contact, which are school staff, to ensure all students have access to services.

Ms. O'Reilly explained that the two wraparound staff are city employees; one is at Stevenson and one is at Lake Hills. Neither is paid out of the budget. Ms. Betty Takahashi added that their roles are separate. The Family Connection Center staff are not in all the schools, but all the schools have access to the services provided.

Commissioner Kline noted that Jubilee Reach is another player, at least at Sammamish High School, and she asked how the Family Connection Center interacts with that program. Ms. Takahashi said Jubilee Reach does a lot of after-school programming, working one-on-one with students in a relational role. The Family Connection Center works with students and parents and staff and does more in the realm of facilitating programs from outside agencies.

Commissioner Kline asked if there are other organizations that play a role like Jubilee Reach in other schools. Ms. Meyers said the YMCA and the Bellevue Boys & Girls Club work with students but they do not provide one-on-one site coaching. The Jubilee Reach coaches even go into the classrooms.

Commissioner Mercer observed from the application that even though the ask is substantially higher, the number of FTEs drops from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016, there is nothing to indicate the number of FTEs is set to substantially increase in relation to the increased ask. Additionally, the service levels outlined in the application appear to be flat. Ms. Meyers said the ask is a reflection of the true need, which previous asks have not shown. Ms. Takahashi added that the cost of the program has been calculated to be close to \$400,000, and for each of the last few years it has been

difficult for the district to contribute funding to continue the program. Consideration has been given to continuing the program with five staff rather than the current ten. The program is fully funded by the district only through the end of the year.

Commissioner Mercer said she would like to understand what funding from the city at the previous level will buy, and what could be done with some level of increased funding. Ms. Meyers said the program serves Bellevue students only, and cutting back the funding will result in a reduced number of service units. She added that because the Family Connection Center serves as a conduit for other service providers, reducing program staff will significantly impact the ability of other agencies to provide services.

Commissioner Kline asked if there have been any discussions with the Bellevue Schools Foundation about broadening their scope beyond the classroom to include the program. Ms. Takahashi said the organization was approached last year and the answer they gave was that they are only focused on academics, not on human services. She said she was not averse to bring up the topic with them again.

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

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

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

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

40. Camp Korey: Camp Korey

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

41. Catholic Community Services: Volunteer Chore Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

42. Chinese Information and Service Center: Cultural Navigator Program

Chair McEachran asked what the intent is to fundraise for the program. Ms. Jennifer O'Neal said the agency allowed 15 hours per week for someone to run the program. That amount is insufficient to both run the program and write grant applications. The program has been in operation since 2006 serving immigrants in their various languages. The original stakeholders intended the program to do more than just serve as caseworkers; their plans extended to providing cultural competency support to all of the various social service organizations that deal with clients from different language and cultural backgrounds, but to date there has not been the funding to do that. The problem is it takes funding to pay someone to go out in search of additional

funding. She noted, however, that the organization is working to engage with Nordstrom, Wells Fargo Foundation, Safeco, Real Networks, the Safeway Foundation and others, including Chinese-owned businesses. It is just a matter of getting over the threshold.

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

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

44. Crisis Clinic: King County 211

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

45. Eastside Legal Assistance Program: Legal Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

46. Hopelink: Family Development Program

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

47. India Association of Western Washington: IAWW Community

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

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

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

49. Issaquah Schools Foundation: VOICE Mentor Program

Ms. O'Reilly provided the Commissioners with a handout provided by the program's executive director clarifying the audit that is still being finalized.

50. King County Bar Foundation: Pro Bono Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

51. Youth Eastside Services: Community-based Outreach Services

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

52. Youth Eastside Services: Early Intervention

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

53. Youth Eastside Services: Healthy Start

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

54. Youth Eastside Services: Success Mentoring

The Commissioners had no specific questions for the agency.

**\*\*BREAK\*\***

Ms. Leslie noted that during the next phase the Commissioners would assign a preliminary dollar amount to each application. Once that has been done for all of the applications, time will be spent in bringing things into balance with the available funding and getting any lingering questions answered.

Ms. Leslie reminded the Commissioners that internally the budget process is under way. She said she submitted the budget proposal for operation of the human services division. Because there is a Council priority relative to a permanent winter shelter, the budget proposal was expanded to include specific homelessness issues that total \$248,300. If approved, that amount would be an add-on to the base. By the time the Commission concludes its work of developing funding recommendations, the budget issues will not have been resolved. In three meetings with the leadership team, the issues of homelessness were clearly explained.

1. Andrews House Washington: Andrews House

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

The pilot program is in its first year of operation, is untested and has no outcomes. The program concept is one to keep an eye on for the future. The service unit amounts are quite high.

2. Attain Housing: Transitional Housing/Welcome Home

Preliminary recommendation: Fund with COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

3. Catholic Community Services: Eastside Winter Shelter for Families

Preliminary recommendation: Fund at full amount.

4. Catholic Community Services: Emergency Assistance

Preliminary recommendation: Fund with COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

5. Catholic Community Services: New Bethlehem Day Center for Families

Preliminary recommendation: \$12,500

If the homelessness part of the budget request is approved, the balance of the request can be funded.

6. Congregations for the Homeless: Drop In Center

Preliminary recommendation: \$25,000

Commissioner Perelman proposed flat funding for the application. Commissioner Bruels pointed out that once a location is identified, it will likely be necessary to pay market-rate rent.

Ms. Leslie pointed out that the agency also wants to add staff, so the increase in the ask is intended to cover both rent and additional staffing.

Commissioner Villar recommended \$25,000 and the other Commissioners agreed.

7. Congregations for the Homeless: Eastside Winter Shelter

Preliminary recommendation: \$75,000

Ms. Leslie said the homelessness budget component includes \$21,000 to cover the increase in the rental cost and case management.

Commissioner Perelman pointed out that in addition to seeking additional funding through the budget process, the Commission could go back to the Council showing what can be funded with the available dollars and what could be funded if there were a few more dollars. Ms. Leslie agreed that if the program does not get funded through the budget process, the Commission will still have the option of going to the Council to seek more funds.

Commissioner Perlman proposed \$75,000 on the hope that the balance of the funds will be identified through another process.

8. Congregations for the Homeless: Housing & Shelter

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

9. Congregations for the Homeless: Housing

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

10. Congregations for the Homeless: Outreach

Preliminary recommendation: Full request

Ms. Leslie noted that the police department strongly supports the outreach program. Some on the leadership team would like to see a full-time outreach person assigned just to Bellevue.

Commissioner Bruels said he had also been persuaded to fully fund the program.

11. Community Homes, Inc.: Community Homes

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund.

Commissioner Bruels noted the city already supports similar programs. The other Commissioners concurred.

12. Eastside Baby Corner: Meeting Basic Needs for Children

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount

13. Emergency Feeding Program: Emergency Feeding Program

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund.

Commissioner Perelman pointed out that there are other programs in Bellevue that fill need, including Hopelink and the Renewal Food Bank. Ms. O'Reilly said the only difference is that the Emergency Feeding Program delivers.

Commissioner Kline said there is a need for a program that will deliver. If the program is defunded, it should be contingent on one of the other programs being willing to pick up the delivery piece.

Ms. O'Reilly pointed out that the Emergency Feeding Program does have food bags that correspond to the different ethnic priorities and special diets.

Commissioner Villar noted that the representative had indicated there is a bit of an oversaturation in Bellevue.

Chair McEachran said his church has been working with the program for 27 years but has not had a single person come seeking food in more than three months, likely due to oversaturation. There is a food pantry at Bellevue College that is being supported by the staff and students and that would be a better pickup site.

Commissioner Perelman commented that the agency does not seem to know its constituents very well, which is evident in the fact that they did not know there were any concerns with the Bellevue School District.

There was agreement not to fund the application.

There was also agreement to reach out to Hopelink to see if they would be willing to add a delivery component.

#### 14. Friends of Youth: Homeless Young Adult Housing

Preliminary recommendation: Full request

Commissioner Villar said she found it odd that the application indicates only about a third of the contract was met and asked if that means Bellevue funds went unused. Ms. Leslie said there is a clause in every contract that 90 percent of service unit goals must be met in order to get reimbursed. The city has the discretion to allow for variables where there are good reasons for not meeting the contract goals.

Ms. Catalano pointed out that because of the coordinated entry system it is not possible for homeless shelters to guarantee Bellevue residents will be served, so that fact has been taken into consideration.

Commissioner Kline asked how much the program receives from King County, and if the program could operate outside of the coordinated entry system. Ms. Leslie explained that \$123,000 in Federal McKinney-Vento funds flow through the County. They would lose all of that money if they did not participate in coordinated entry, which is a federal requirement; they would also lose their HHS grant and all local King County funds.

Commissioner Kline said she would at some point like to see some statistics about coordinated entry relative to the number of Bellevue residents served and where they were served. Ms. Leslie said King County just brought onboard a new manager for its homeless management information system. It is hoped that city staff will receive training in how to pull out the data without going through their staff.

Commissioner Mercer said she had been impressed by the presentation and favored fully funding the application. Commissioner Kline suggested the application should be flagged to be cut back to a COLA increase only if adjustments need to be made. There was agreement to do that.

#### 15. Friends of Youth: Homeless Youth Outreach and Drop-in Support

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

16. Friends of Youth: Shelter for Youth and Young Adults

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

17. Hopelink: Emergency Food

Preliminary recommendation: \$64,000

Commissioner Bruels commented that with the decision not to fund the Emergency Feeding Program, it would make sense to fully fund the application.

Commissioner Villar proposed dividing up what might have gone to the Emergency Feeding Program by fully funding the Renewal Food Bank application and giving an additional \$7,000 over the previous allocation to the Emergency Food application for a total of \$64,000. The other Commissioners agreed.

18. Hopelink: Emergency Services Financial Assistance

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

There was agreement to flag the application for additional discussion.

19. Hopelink: Housing

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

There was agreement to flag the application for additional discussion.

Preliminary recommendation:

21. Imagine Housing: Resident Services

Preliminary recommendation: \$30,000

Commissioner Bruels said he could support fully funding the application.

Commissioner Villar observed that the application included funding for Francis Village. She recommended \$30,000 and there was consensus to do that.

22. LifeWire: LifeWire - Housing Stability

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

Commissioners Bruels and Villar commented that while the application was poorly written, the program is good.

23. Renewal Food Bank: Renewal Food Bank

Preliminary recommendation: \$20,000

25. Solid Ground: Cooking Matters

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

Commissioner Villar said she could support funding the application at the \$5000 level. Commissioner Bruels said he would prefer not to fund the program, and Chair McEachran agreed.

Commissioner Kline commented that the program is an innovative new approach.

Ms. O'Reilly said the agency used to run the program using the WSU Cooperative Extension service.

There was agreement not to fund the application.

26. Solid Ground: Housing Stability Project

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

27. Sound Generations: Meals on Wheels

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

28. The Salvation Army: Eastside

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

Commissioner Perelman said her preference was not to fund the application. Commissioner Mercer concurred. Commissioner Villar agreed as well based on the audit results.

Commissioner Perelman commented that nothing has changed. In the responses given, it is clear they only do referrals. The application mentions nothing about collaborations.

Quoting from the audit, Commissioner Villar read that the agency's revenue adjustments relating to non-portfolio pledge contributions and government grants are recorded due to misappropriation of assets. Ms. Leslie allowed that while it looks bad, there were no adjustments recommended by the auditor. She said it is not actually as bad as it sounds.

Commissioner Villar suggested the agency poses a risk because revenues have been improperly classified based on donor restrictions. Bellevue's funding is restricted, but if the agency does not fully understand how it can use restricted and unrestricted funds, there could be problems.

Commissioner Kline asked at what level the audit occurred and was told by Ms. Leslie that it covers the Western Washington arm of the organization.

Chair McEachran said not funding the application would have a large impact in the Crossroads area, and the organization certainly has the heart of at least one member of the City Council. Ms. Leslie said there is more than one Councilmember who advocates for the organization. The Police Department is also very supportive of the agency.

Ms. Leslie suggested the basic question should be whether or not Bellevue people are being served. Ms. Catalano said the answer according to the quarterly reports is yes.

Commissioner Kline said she was willing to read the full audit and provide a report at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Perelman said she would prefer to earmark the funds for Hopelink instead. Commissioner Kline pointed out that Hopelink's outcomes are not exactly stellar. Commissioner Bruels added that none of the outcomes for financial assistance programs are stellar; giving people cash is not a very efficient way of helping people. However, the program does help to prevent homelessness in many cases and that is the point.

Commissioner Perelman said she continued to struggle with what the agency stands for. Commissioner Bruels pointed out that the city has a history of funding Catholic Community Services, Jubilee Reach and a number of other religious organizations. Commissioner Mercer countered that the other organizations do not proselytize. Commissioner Bruels reminded the group that the Salvation Army has repeatedly indicated that they do not require people to be exposed to proselytizing messaging in order to get services.

Ms. Leslie cautioned that to go against the Council will require having a solid reason.

Commissioner Perelman said she is not convinced the agency is really a part of the human services network on the Eastside. The reason the Councilmembers are attached to the organization is because of the name.

Commissioner Kline commented that the organization is currently building a new facility in Bellevue that will open in the fall. Chair McEachran added that they have strong community leaders serving on their board, which makes clear their ties to the community.

Commissioner Villar said she could agree to a COLA increase. Commissioner Mercer argued in favor of flat funding but could agree to a COLA increase if the application were flagged for additional review in the event additional funding adjustments are needed.

There was agreement to give the application a COLA increase.

29. The Sophia Way: Eastside Winter Shelter

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

Commissioner Villar said she was curious why the agency had to come to the city because it had too many people to serve when according to the application they met only 88 percent of their contract goals. Commissioner Mercer agreed that their numbers might be a little off.

30. The Sophia Way: Sophia's Place Shelter Program Single Women

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

31. The Sophia Way: Women's Day Center

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

Commissioner Villar noted that the program had not previously met its contract goals.

Ms. Leslie pointed out that the program is on her list for additional funding.

Commissioner Bruels proposed giving the application a COLA increase and to hope additional funding will be approved by the Council. There was agreement to do that.

32. YWCA: Family Village

Preliminary recommendation: \$26,000

Ms. Catalano pointed out that the amount of the ask is less than what was previously awarded.

Commissioner Perelman stated that the program involves permanent housing in the city of Redmond. Ms. Leslie said it is not all permanent housing.

Ms. Leslie agreed the topic should be discussed with the other cities during the June 28 joint meeting. What is involved is ten units for homeless families and ten units for permanent supportive housing. It would not be good for Bellevue to simply say it will no longer fund it, giving the responsibility over to Redmond.

Commissioner Villar recommended funding the application at half of the request, which would be \$26,000.

Commissioner Perelman observed that Bellevue is being asked for significantly more than the other cities. Commissioner Villar added that in 2015 only 31 of those served were Bellevue residents. Ms. Leslie pointed out that the agency has no control over the referrals they get because of the coordinated entry system. She said all of the transitional housing agencies are having to make the conversion that is driven by the federal government, and added that the dust has not yet settled.

Commissioner Villar said Bellevue is being asked to fund 20 residents and Redmond is being asked to fund 18 residents. However, Bellevue is being asked for \$52,972 and Redmond is being asked for \$23,029. Using that calculation, it would make more sense to fund the application at about \$26,000.

Chair McEachran said it would be appropriate to ask why Bellevue is being asked to pay more per resident served.

There was agreement to preliminarily allocate \$26,000 to the application.

33. Alpha Supported Living Services: Alpha Supported Living Services

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

There was agreement that other similar programs are already funded.

Commissioner Villar pointed out that the agency's formulas used were not consistent across the cities.

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

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

35. Assistance League the Eastside: Operation School Bell

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

36. Athletes For Kids: Athletes For Kids

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

There was agreement that the city already funds other mentoring programs.

37. Bellevue School District: Human Services

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

The Commissioners reiterated their desire to receive an update from staff.

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

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

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

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

The consensus was that the application does not fall within a funding priority.

40. Camp Korey: Camp Korey

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

The consensus was that the application does not fall within a funding priority.

41. Catholic Community Services: Volunteer Chore Services

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

42. Chinese Information and Service Center: Cultural Navigator Program

Preliminary recommendation: \$75,000

Commissioner Bruels said he could support a COLA increase but would like to come back to the application for additional review.

Commissioner Villar suggested \$75,000 on the grounds that giving the program a little more money will give it a little more time.

There was agreement to set the funding at \$75,000.

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

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

It was noted that the city already funds mentoring programs, and it was unclear the program would have sufficient impact.

44. Crisis Clinic: King County 211

Preliminary recommendation: Fully fund

45. Eastside Legal Assistance Program: Legal Services

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

46. Hopelink: Family Development Program

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

47. India Association of Western Washington: IAWW Community

Preliminary recommendation: \$20,000

Commissioner Villar recommended funding at \$15,500 based on the \$100 per resident service unit cost.

Commissioner Mercer said that amount seemed really low. Commissioner Bruels agreed and suggested that it might not make much of a difference. He added that it would get a foot in the door for the new program.

Commissioner Mercer said she liked the program and would prefer to fund the program, though not at the full request.

There was consensus to fund the application \$20,000.

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

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

It was agreed that the collaborative impact in Bellevue is low and that similar programs are already funded.

49. Issaquah Schools Foundation: VOICE Mentor Program

Preliminary recommendation: Do not fund

The consensus was Bellevue is already funding other mentoring programs.

50. King County Bar Foundation: Pro Bono Services

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

51. Youth Eastside Services: Community-based Outreach Services

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

52. Youth Eastside Services: Early Intervention

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

53. Youth Eastside Services: Healthy Start

Preliminary recommendation: \$25,000

Ms. O'Reilly said the program was previously with Friends of Youth and was funded at about \$23,000. She added that moving into a new model is a good thing because infant mental health programs are needed. She stressed the need to fund the application at some level.

Commissioner Villar proposed cutting the request in half and allocating \$26,405.

The consensus was to round the number down to an even \$25, 000.

54. Youth Eastside Services: Success Mentoring

Preliminary recommendation: COLA not to exceed the requested amount.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. O'Reilly reported that she and Ms. Catalano met on June 6 with the Executive Director of the YMCA and the Child Care Director. She said it was learned the reason they did not apply for funding was because it was unknown if they would be able to stay at the Congregational Church. A new five-year lease has been negotiated, but the agency had already given notice to their staff and to the children's families. The contract agreement came about as the last minute. The agency intends to build back up to 50 children and to continue offering some scholarships even without Bellevue funding. The conversation will be kept open along with the idea of bringing child care into the affordable housing arena as part of the Affordable Housing Technical Advisory Group.

8. NEW BUSINESS – None

9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McEachran adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Human Services Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Human Services Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date