



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 28, 2022  
Granite Reef Senior Center  
1700 N. Granite Reef Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

**PRESENT:** Chair Neal Shearer, Vice-Chair Tricia Serlin, Roger Lurie, and Jeff Jameson

**STAFF:** Irma Hollamby, Community Assistance Manager; Mary Witkofski, Community Development Supervisor; Christina Cooley, Housing Supervisor; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane and Rachel Smetana, Human Services Managers; Mike Lopach, Human Services Center Supervisor; and Rosita Pinedo, Human Services Case Worker

**Call to Order**

Ms. Hollamby called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present as listed above.

**Public Comment**

Former Commissioner Raul Zubia apologized for leaving abruptly, explaining that he had to resign immediately upon becoming a City Council candidate. He thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work.

On behalf of the Human Services Commission and the Scottsdale Housing Governing Board, Ms. Hollamby thanked Mr. Zubia for his service and for being an advocate for critical human services. She wished him good luck in his future endeavors.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**1. Election of Human Services Advisory Commission Chairperson**

Ms. Hollamby noted that because of the resignations of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, the Commission is required to hold an election to fill both positions. The elected chair and vice chair shall hold their positions until September, when another election will be held for a year-long term.

COMMISSIONER LURIE NOMINATED NEAL SHEARER FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER SERLIN SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, LURIE, SHEARER, AND SERLIN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Chair Shearer immediately assumed his position.

## **2. Election of Human Services Advisory Commission Vice-Chairperson**

COMMISSIONER JAMESON NOMINATED TRICIA SERLIN FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION.

CHAIR SHEARER NOMINATED ROGER LURIE FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Nominations were closed.

Due to a potential tie vote, Chair Shearer withdrew his nomination for Roger Lurie.

COMMISSIONER JAMESON REITERATED HIS NOMINATION FOR TRICIA SERLIN FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, LURIE, AND SERLIN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Vice-Chair Serlin immediately assumed her position.

Chair Shearer noted that the City has received three applications for the three vacant Commission positions. City Council will make nominations on May 3, 2022, and Commissioner appointments will be made on May 17, 2022.

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

Regular Meeting: March 24, 2022

Chair Shearer noted that on page 3, the reference to Teen Lifeline under SARRC should be omitted.

Commissioners clarified Scottsdale Cares recommendations.

VICE-CHAIR SERLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 24, 2022 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER JAMESON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON AND LURIE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

#### **4. Senior Services Update**

Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager, presented an update on client case management services, post COVID-19 challenges and opportunities. He said that with COVID concerns relaxing, many senior center events and programs have come back. Recent and upcoming events and programs that were mentioned included:

- Valentine's Day luncheon on February 14, 2022 had approximately 100 seniors in attendance
- Tax Services at both senior centers
- Spring Barbeques at both centers, March 1st, and 4th
- Spring Art Show, April 1, 2022, with over 60 attendees
- All Things Senior Expo and Trade Show, April 14, 2022, held at Scottsdale Stadium, had approximately 350 attendees and 55 vendors
- Improv Night at Granite Reef Senior center on April 14, 2022
- Increased senior food programs, in partnership with St. Mary's and Scottsdale Community Partners
- Beat the Heat program has 122 homebound seniors enrolled to date
- Back to School program has 220 families enrolled to date
- Brown Bag program has 201 seniors enrolled
- Commodities food distribution is a new program and has 24 seniors enrolled

Mr. Munoz-Villafane shared two client case stories.

Commissioners commended Human Services staff for their genuinely caring approach with seniors and for working with a network of organizations to provide needed services.

#### **5. Paiute Neighborhood Center Update**

Mike Lopach, Human Services Center Supervisor, and Rosita Pinedo, Human Services Case Worker, presented an update on client case management services, and post COVID-19 challenges and opportunities.

Mr. Lopach reviewed the service providers now available on the Paiute Campus, including Hirsch Academy, Mentor Kids USA, Early Head Start, WIC offices, and most recently Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center (SARRC). He mentioned that the first installation done by the Brick-by-Brick program was at the Alli Ortega Memorial Reading Garden, located on Paiute Campus.

Ms. Pinedo talked about the strong collaborative relationships that the City has with local partner organizations and groups with the goal of providing resources and a safety net to Scottsdale residents in crisis or in need of assistance reaching self-sufficiency. She reviewed services that are offered to clients and organizations that Human Services works in collaboration with to provide services. She noted that the most time-consuming cases are those that involve housing issues, including landlord/tenant issues, rental assistance, or potential eviction. Housing issues sparked the formation of the Welcome Home Coalition, which was started under the leadership of former Commissioner Jayne Hubbard and works as a grassroots effort to provide additional resources to residents in crisis.

Ms. Pinedo shared some client case stories.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Lopach said that a strategic planning session discussing the future of Paiute Neighborhood Center took place prior to COVID and prior to many of the changes that are now taking place in the neighborhood. Strategic planning will be an ongoing discussion moving forward.

## **6. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR SERLIN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON AND LURIE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Recorded and Transcribed by eScribers, LLC.