



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 8, 2022  
Community Design Studio Nave  
7506 E. Indian School Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**PRESENT:** Chair Neal Shearer, Vice Chair Tricia Serlin, Commission Members Patrick Dodds, Jeff Jameson (left at 4:57 p.m.), Mary Jung, Roger Lurie, and Stuart Turgel

**STAFF:** Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director; Mary Witkofski, Interim Housing Manager; Human Services Managers Deanna Owens, Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Mike Lopach, and Rachel Smetana; Human Services Case Workers Rosita Pinedo and Maria Padilla; Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist; Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director

**Call to Order**

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present as listed above.

**Public Comment**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

Approve the regular Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2022

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2022 HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER DODDS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS DODDS, JAMESON, JUNG, LURIE, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSIDENTING VOTES.

### **1a. Human Services Yearend Summary**

Mike Murphy, Business & Analytics Manager, reviewed the impact the Human Services Department had on the community. Acknowledging that the statistics for previous years do not represent an unduplicated number of contacts, Mr. Murphy said he is hopeful that the yearend activity for 2022/23 will more accurately reflect unduplicated contacts. His presentation included a review of Human Services contacts; dollars brought in by special events; the value of assistance disbursed through the community assistance office; an accounting of individuals and families receiving assistance; types of assistance offered, including mortgage and rent assistance, utility assistance, CDBG funds and FSS; city-funded food programs; and volunteer statistics.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation.

### **2. FY 2023/2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Set Aside Requests**

Mary Witkofski, Interim Community Assistance Manager reviewed the FY 2023/2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) purpose, goals, and set-aside funding allocations. The set-aside request this year is for the Housing Rehabilitation program, playground equipment replacement, and a heat mitigation study in southern Scottsdale, and adding adolescent community mental health services to the Youth and Family Services department. She anticipates receiving approximately \$1.1 million from HUD through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). HUD regulates that 20 percent of the funding can go to administration and planning and public service dollars are capped at 15 percent. Approximately, \$76,000 in unspent funds in the CDBG account are being reallocated and show as an increase in the administration budget.

Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist, reviewed the details of the set-asides for the housing rehabilitation programs. Green Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides cost-effective, energy efficient improvements to homes, provides funds to qualified homeowners as a deferred loan, with 50 percent of the loan being forgiven upon completion of repairs and 50 percent remaining as a lien on the home. The Roof Repair and Replacement Program is a grant program with a maximum amount of \$20,000 available for qualifying homeowners. The Emergency Repair Program is a grant program with a maximum \$10,000 per year made available to qualifying homeowners. Because of recent inflation and limited availability of supplies, the roof repair program recently went from a \$10,000 maximum to \$20,000. \$410,000 is being requested to fund these three programs. Anticipated outcomes are to complete five Green Building Projects, ten Roof Repair Replacement projects, and 30 Emergency Repair projects in FY 2023/24.

\$340,000 is being requested for the replacement of the 20-year-old Eldorado Park Playground. Mr. Beougher noted that it is no longer cost-effective to maintain the park as the equipment is no longer in safe condition.

Ms. Witkofski explained that \$22,000 is being requested for a heat mitigation study in southern Scottsdale is a project between the Office of Environmental Initiatives and Vista del Camino. The project is a collaboration to develop a community informed response to the extreme heat strategic action plan. Anticipated outcomes from the study include helping residents identify their own response strategies to meet heat-related needs.

A 15 percent set aside of \$91,000 is being requested to add an adolescent community mental health clinician to Youth and Family Services. Total set-aside for all programs would be \$863,226.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Beougher said that last year set-aside funding was approximately \$700,000. Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director, explained that staff is currently working on the City's first sustainability plan. One of the highest priorities is finding ways to ensure the most vulnerable populations are safe from the extreme heat. Director Bestgen noted that the Operation Fix It program assists low to moderate income families and there are oftentimes referrals made through that program to the Housing Rehabilitation programs.

COMMISSIONER TURGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY 2023/2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) SET-ASIDE REQUESTS. COMMISSIONER JAMESON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS DODDS, JAMESON, JUNG, LURIE, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**3. Public Hearing First Substantial Amendment on the FY 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan allocating \$310,765 in Program Income to the Green Housing Rehabilitation**

Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist, solicited public testimony on the First Substantial Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 Annual Action Plan regarding the allocation of \$310,765 in program income to the Green Housing Rehabilitation Program.

There were no comments from the public.

**4. Paiute Neighborhood Center Update**

Deanna Owens, Human Services Manager, reviewed the Paiute Community Center mission statement, noting that the center focuses on community engagement and building collaborative relationships with partners.

Rosita Pinedo, Human Services Caseworker, reviewed the responsibilities of Social Services, the Community Assistance office and the Scottsdale Family Resource Center. She highlighted ways the City of Scottsdale works with on-site partner agencies, non-profit, and volunteer agencies to assist clients with social services. She noted that the community assistance office works with affordable housing programs and emergency repair assistance. The family resource center is grant funded through First Things First and provides information and referrals for families with children ages birth to five years old and offers educational programming. Future goals include completing updates to the building facilities as part of the 2019 Bond and exploring opportunities to increase Paiute's diversity of programs and services. Maria Padilla, Human Services Caseworker, gave examples of recent cases and talked about the recent Children's Expo and informational workshops.

Ms. Owens said that on-site partner agencies include Maricopa County WIC and Head Start programs, Hirsch Academy, Mentor Kids USA, and SARRC. Off-site partners include Partners

for Paiute and the Scottsdale Bar Association.

Raoul Zubia, Board Member for Partners for Paiute, provided information on their programs at Paiute. His presentation included a review of the history of Partners for Paiute and the evolution of their efforts from focusing solely on Paiute Neighborhood Center to expanding coverage to the community in general. They work with Paiute social workers to provide a variety of assistance, including rent and utility assistance, transitional housing, providing furnishings, and eye exams and glasses.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Zubia explained that the organization is funded primarily through grants and has an all-volunteer board, with 100 percent of funds going to helping. Partners for Paiute issues a monthly newsletter that includes information on their efforts and on happenings at Paiute Neighborhood Center.

Amy Kenzer, Chief Operating Officer for Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center, provided information on the program, which is celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> year and second year at Paiute campus. The organization's vision is that people with autism will be meaningfully integrated into an inclusive society. The organization achieves that vision by advancing research and providing a lifetime of services for people with autism and their families while building an inclusive community. Ms. Kenzer reviewed the types of services SAARC offers, including EZ Screen, consultation services, children's services, teen and adult services. She highlighted the childcare for kids with autism program, noting that enrollment is now open for the 2022/23 Community School year.

## **5. Identification of Future Agenda Items**

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- Orientation and software training

## **6. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER DODDS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR SERLIN, COMMISSIONERS DODDS, JUNG, LURIE, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER JAMESON WAS NO LONGER PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

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