



City of Scottsdale
Human Services Commission
Regular Meeting

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

Thursday, August 13, 2015

City Hall Kiva Forum
3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Raoul Zubia, Chair
Dustin Thomas, Vice Chair
Enid Seiden, Commissioner
Donald Nordlund, Commissioner
Marty Day, Commissioner
Nicholas Thomas, Commissioner
Josina Tishler, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director
Justin Boyd, Housing Coordinator
Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance Manager
Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager
Joanne Meierdirks, Human Services Coordinator
Phil Hershkowitz, Recreation Coordinator
Kacey Moyers, Technology Coordinator

GUESTS: Nikki Kontz
Karen Staley
Ken Lynch
Julie Turko

Call to order

Chair Zubia called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as noted above.

1. **Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Regular Meeting: May 28, 2015

COMMISSIONER SEIDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 28, 2015 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER TISHLER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

2. **Teen Lifeline: Children and Families in Crisis: Understanding Trends and Utilizing Support**

Nikki Kontz, Clinical Director of Teen Lifeline, gave a presentation discussing the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey results and the way that teen mental health is addressed in the State of Arizona.

Commission members were given the opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Kontz noted that the state government has realized that some of the budget decisions that were made in the past few years were not in the best interest of the state and are making some changes to mitigate issues. There is no talk at the current time with regard to funding for mental health education.

3. **Big Brothers Big Sisters Arizona presentation**

Karen Staley, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Arizona VP of Marketing and Development gave a presentation discussing positive outcomes of mentorship in a child's life. Big Brothers Big Sisters serves youth ages six to 18. Involving a mentor in a child's life offers both the mentee and the mentor an opportunity for different life experiences. Investing in a mentorship program is beneficial for the community because many times a positive influence affects children's behavior, resulting in fewer young people in the juvenile justice system.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for volunteers and the ratio of men and women who volunteer as mentors. There is a great need for male mentors, because 80 percent of the children waiting for a mentor are boys.

4. **Tumbleweed: Helping Youth 12-25 from traumatic family situations grow and thrive**

Ken Lynch, Chief Executive Officer of Tumbleweed, gave an overview of how Tumbleweed helps homeless and runaway youth ages 12 to 25 achieve independent adulthood. Tumbleweed conducts outreach to teens who are on the street, provides education, job preparation opportunities, emergency housing, and transitional housing. Where appropriate, the program assists families with reunification.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Lynch discussed the mental health and health-related issues homeless teens tend to experience. He noted that youth who have come over from Central America tend to have extensive

health issues, in particular with their feet because they have walked long distances to get into the country. He talked briefly about how teen mothers with newborns are addressed and counseling that is required.

Mr. Bestgen asked about the family reunification program. Mr. Lynch talked about the designated "safe places" that are available at QT Stores and Metro Life Stations and some successful reunification outcomes that have been a result of that program.

5. AASK Presentation

Julie Turko, AASK Director of Development, gave a presentation discussing the importance of mentors to foster youth. She said that there are currently approximately 800 youth aging out of the foster care program each year. Youth in foster care have many times experienced trauma, abuse, neglect and separation and those who are in group homes are at particular risk of experiencing mental and emotional issues. Mentors provide a consistent presence in a child's life and can be critical intervention and help empower them to take positive steps to a successful future.

Commission members were given the opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Turko explained that the evaluation process to determine eligibility for the program is completed by the state prior to the youth entering the mentoring program. Appropriate information is shared with mentors prior to making a match in order to ensure compatibility. AASK is part of the Wednesday's Child program.

6. CDBG, HOME, Scottsdale Cares, General Fund and Endowment Funding Process Discussion

Justin Boyd, Housing Coordinator, reviewed the Commissioner feedback from the May 14, 2015 Commission meeting. Further research into addressing Commissioner Feedback was as follows:

- Email results upon submission of the survey: Survey Monkey does not have a feature to allow results to be emailed upon the completion of the survey. Absent this feature, the checklist will continue to be utilized for the scoring sheet as surveys are completed. This tool will continue to be utilized for the 2015/16 funding process.
- Display results at the end of the survey: Instant results will be shown on Survey Monkey. Instant results will display average scores and percentages by funding source.
- Removing double submittals from survey entries: There is no feature to remove surveys submitted more than once. The process will continue to be a manual process and Commissioners will be contacted individually regarding duplicate survey submissions
- To circumvent tapping into the text box and bringing up the keyboard, radio buttons will be incorporated into the scoring component of the survey. Scoring will be consolidated to a scale of zero through five for all sections of the evaluation tool.
- In order for staff to provide the demonstrated capacity that is provided prior to initiating the scoring component of the evaluation tool, a double submit process is required. The form needs to remain intact in order to capture the surveys.

Other items that were consensus of the Commission were to change the assigned percentages for Scottsdale Cares to 15% as opposed to 20% and to General Funds to 20% as opposed to 15%.

Mr. Boyd noted that he is currently researching a different survey tool in hopes that it can meet all of the criteria. If the test pilot is positive, the tool could be used for the 2016/17 funding process.

7. Staff and Commission Updates

Greg Bestgen, Human Services Director, distributed a copy of the Human Services Master Plan for Commissioners to review. He noted that the plan will be on the August 25, 2015 City Council consent agenda. Comments and questions can be submitted directly to Bill Murphy.

Mr. Bestgen noted that the Community Assistance Office has completed its move to the Paiute Neighborhood Center and encouraged Commissioners to drop by and take a tour. He introduced Deanna Zuppan, who is in charge of Adapted Services which is now under the Human Services umbrella.

Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager, thanked all the participants for helping with the Back to School Drive. He briefly talked about the challenges associated with taking the event from a two-day event to a one-day event. He noted that 443 students were serviced last year and this year there were 832 students. Mr. Bestgen added that 144 volunteers dedicated 722 hours to the effort.

Joanne Meierdirks, Human Services Manager, reported that the Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council students have been selected; 45 sophomores, juniors and seniors from ten high schools are participating this year. Mayor Lane will attend the first meeting scheduled for August 17th. The multidisciplinary team, which is open to all city programs and community agencies that work with youth and families will start back up in September. A presentation on trauma-informed care will be held on September 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The alcohol and drug awareness experiential education program, including the fatal vision goggles, will be offered to the middle schools in the fall and the impaired driving vehicle will go to schools in spring.

Michelle Albanese, Community Assistance Manager, noted that today a wait list for the Section 8 voucher program was opened first time since 2010. Applications were accepted electronically and limited to a maximum of 500 applications. Mr. Bestgen added that because the online applications can be challenging to some people and in particular the elderly population, the Senior Centers, Paiute Neighborhood Center, and the Community Assistance Office staff were available at the Civic Center Library to lend their assistance with the application process.

Deanna Zuppan introduced herself and briefly talked about the Adapted Services Center.

Ms. Albanese added that the Paiute Neighborhood Center offered a great summer program with approximately 80 children participating each day. The Valley Ho offered a program through the Paiute Neighborhood Center offering 36 children aged 8 to 12 the

opportunity to participate in activities and gave each child a backpack filled with school supplies at the end of the session.

8. Open call to the Public

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

9. Adjournment

Being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.