



City of Scottsdale
Human Services Commission
Regular Meeting

Summarized Minutes

5:00 P.M., Thursday, October 16, 2008
Vista Del Camino
7700 E Roosevelt St
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hemmingsen called the meeting to order at 5:01PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Kathleen Hemmingsen, Vice-chair Katherine Weaver, Commissioners: Steven Rosenberg, Carol Erickson, and Andy Yates

Absent: Commissioners: Katy Kalewae, Jo Ann Woodward

Staff Present: Paul Ludwick, Cindy Ensign, Kathy Breen, Gene Munoz-Villafane, Danny Gallegos, Noemi Garcia, Chelo Leyva, Pat Leos, Ruben Camacho, Valerie Kime-Trujillo, and Debra Baird

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES—September 25, 2008 Regular Meeting

Approved 5-0: Vice-Chair Weaver moved for approval and Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

4. VISTA DEL CAMINO STAFF PRESENTATION

Kathy Breen, Manager of Vista del Camino, gave a detailed history and overview of Vista del Camino whose mission is to provide recreational, education programs and amenities to the local community, as well as a variety of social services to Scottsdale residents to prevent homelessness, meet the basic needs of individuals and families in crisis, relieve economic and emotional stress and assist individuals to maintain self-sufficiency. Gene Munoz-Villafane elaborated on the social services the center provides, the fact that all clients are screened by masters' level social workers, the LIHEAP program and other funding sources, and that there is increased demand due to the economy. Danny Gallegos spoke about the recreational programs, youth/teen programs, teen council, and Vista's commitment to the surrounding park. Noemi Garcia gave an overview of the job preparation program, gave details on how many people were served, and talked about increased demand for service. Chelo Leyva gave an overview of the

Scottsdale Teens On a Mission for Progress which helps low income senior citizens and persons with disabilities maintain their property.

Commissioner Yates asked about the food bank levels and Kathy Breen responded that although there is a lot of community involvement, the food bank had to buy food for the first time in a long time and is in need of diapers.

Commissioner Yates asked if more people are asking to be recipients of the Adopt-a-Family Holiday Program this year. Kathy Breen stated that they accepted the same amount of people this year and that Pat Leos, coordinator of the program, felt encouraged by community response.

Chair Hemmingsen reminded everyone that the next Commission meeting would be at the Granite Reef Senior Center and after the next meeting they would be having an Elvis concert. The admission to the concert is one can of food to benefit Vista del Camino.

5. PRESENTATION BY MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Amy St. Peter, Human Services Manager for Maricopa Association of Governments, gave a presentation on the function of MAG to bridge the gap in services across municipal boundaries and to promote regional human services planning. She showed a graphic of Maricopa County that illustrated the diversity and growing population of the county and explained the need for regional Human Services. She made clear the need for a representative from Scottsdale to be involved to advocate for the issues important to our community. Ms. St. Peter gave details on the ways to become involved through various committees, including the Human Services Technical Committee that helps decide where funding is allocated and currently has no Scottsdale representation. She gave other ways to remain informed of Maricopa Association of Governments services, programs and special projects.

6. PRESENTATION BY COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

Susan Youngblood, Managing Attorney for Community Legal Services East Valley Office, gave an overview of the services her program provides at Vista del Camino with \$15,000 awarded by the city. She stated that in 2007 Community Legal Services provided legal assistance for 745 hours to Scottsdale residents dealing with divorce, child custody, domestic violence, financial problems, or facing losing their residences. She indicated that she has seen a rise in people requesting services at the beginning of this fiscal year.

Commissioner Erickson asked if there was a follow up with clients using services.

Ms. Youngblood replied that sometimes they see the same clients again for a modification of previous services especially in custody cases where decisions can be reviewed year after year.

Commissioner Weaver inquired if the agency sees instances of renters being evicted because property owners are going through foreclosure and what remedies are in place.

Ms. Youngblood stated that this is a rising problem and currently the recourse was slim but there is a federal remedy in the works.

Commissioner Erickson asked what the ratio was of help for domestic violence versus other cases.

Ms. Youngblood said that in 2007/2008 about one third of the cases were related to domestic violence and family law.

Chair Hemmingsen asked if there has been an increase in cases involving payday loans.

Ms. Youngblood stated that she has seen an increase in people that have payday loan issues in addition to other problems.

7. STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Paul Ludwick introduced Debra Baird, General Manager of Community Services, who spoke about budget issues. She said that because of a decrease in revenues, all city departments have been asked to submit budget reductions and she will be giving a presentation on the reductions Community Services will propose.

Chair Hemmingsen offered Ms. Baird the Commission's assistance during her budget reduction presentation.

Paul Ludwick submitted some highlights of past and future Human Services events.

Chair Hemmingsen reminded everyone that Granite Reef Senior Center is accepting food donations to benefit Vista del Camino as admission to the Elvis impersonator concert on October 23, 2008.

8. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S § 38-431.02)

There were no comments.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rosenberg moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice Chair Weaver seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 PM.

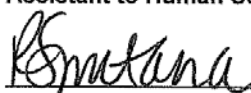
*Signatures needed when APPROVED by Commission

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Officially approved by the Human Services Commission at the 11/13/08 meeting.

Submitted by:

Rachel Smetana
Assistant to Human Services

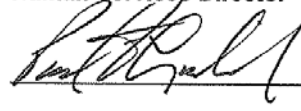


Date:

11/14/08

Reviewed by:

Paul F. Ludwick
Human Services Director



Date:

11/14/08