



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 9, 2023
City Hall Kiva Forum
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Chair Neal Shearer, Vice-Chair Mary Jung, Commissioners Jeff Jameson, Tricia Serlin, Roger Lurie, Patrick Dodds, and Stuart Turgel

STAFF: Greg Bestgen, Director; Mary Witkofski, Community Assistance Manager; Chad Beougher, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist; Rachel Smetana, Human Services Manager; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager; Judy Doyle, Community Services Assistant Executive Director

Call to Order

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 October 26, 2023

COMMISSIONER DODDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 26, 2023 HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER LURIE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG AND COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Social Services Update at Granite Reef and Via Linda Senior Centers

Eugenio Munoz-Villafane MSW, Human Services Manager-Senior Services, and Jennifer Murphy MSW, Human Services Center Supervisor, provided an update on the Social Services funding and grants currently offered at both facilities assisting disabled adults and senior residents in Scottsdale. The presentation included a review of social services available through the senior centers, noting that the primary focus is on case management. Ms. Murphy highlighted the dental grant and moving grant programs and services available through relationships the center has with collaborative partners. Mr. Munoz-Villafane elaborated on the relationship with Maricopa County Public Health addressing social isolation. He noted that the center is funded by a variety of sources, including General Fund, SRP-MIC funds, Scottsdale Community Partners, and remaining funds from the Cares Act. Senior Services staff is working on strategies to address current trends, including challenges with the rising costs of housing, medication, and food; rising awareness of people facing social isolation; and an increasing number of complex cases.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Murphy reviewed details of the emergency rental assistance program, noting that the program is designed to provide one-time assistance. She compared the HEAF and LIHEAP programs. Mr. Bestgen noted that under Maricopa County rules as of December 2023, participants will no longer be able to apply for assistance under more than once a year, and people who received funding in the past year will not be eligible to reapply. Ms. Murphy said that in an effort to try to address social isolation, a new grant-funded IGA has been put in place that provides trips for seniors free of charge. Elder Connect is a service that provides seniors with tablets so they can connect with family. Discussion ensued regarding affordable housing, public education, and the importance of involving the faith community.

3. Public Hearing First Substantial Amendment to the FY 2023/2024 annual allocation Plan Allocating \$91,266 to City of Scottsdale, Senior Services Case Worker

Mary Witkofski, Community Assistance Manager solicited public testimony on the first substantial amendment to the FY 2023/2024 Annual Action Plan allocating \$91,266 to the City of Scottsdale, Senior Services Case Worker.

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

4. FY 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Set-Aside Requests

Chad Beougher, Community Development Supervisor, reviewed the FY 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) purpose, goals and set-aside funding allocations.

He said that the set-aside request this year is for the Housing Rehabilitation programs, general public facilities, and a new human services case worker. He 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; planning and public service dollars are capped at 15 percent. Proposed funding for the housing

rehabilitation programs is \$800,000; for the General Public Facilities fund, \$200,000; and for NPS, \$200,000. Mr. Beougher reviewed the details of the set-asides for the Green Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Roof Repair and Replacement Program, the Emergency Repair Program, and General facilities. The total set-aside request is approximately \$1,098,000.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Beougher said that the Paiute Park restroom replacement is currently under contract with a proposed start date for construction is mid-March to April 2024. The Cox Heights street project contract is scheduled to go before City Council in early January. The Apache Park playground project will go to City Council December 5, 2023. The Eldorado Park surveillance video project is currently under environmental review, because it is in a special flood zone.

COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SET-ASIDES AS PRESENTED. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

5. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- City Budget process and deficiencies for existing programs
- Scottsdale Cares
- At-risk programs and alternative funding opportunities

6. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER DODDS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER SERLIN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR SHEARER, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SERLIN, LURIE, DODDS, AND TURGEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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