



City of Davis

Social Services Commission Meeting Minutes

Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, CA 95616

Monday, October 19, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Claire Goldstene, Donald Kalman, Ann Privateer,
Mindy Romero (Vice-Chair), Bernita Toney, R. Matthew Wise (Chair)

Absent: Tracy Tomasky

Council Present: Robb Davis

Staff Present: Danielle Foster, Housing and Human Services Superintendent
Adrienne Heinig, Administrative Aide

Members of the Public Present: Tamiko Kwak, Senior Community Services Supervisor

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairperson Wise

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Romero moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Commissioner Kalman, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Mayor Protempore Davis discussed the showing of Paper Tigers, a documentary screened on the Davis High School campus in the previous week. He shared that he found the movie to be a useful film about trauma in young people, and the influence of that trauma on their behavior. He also mentioned that this Thursday at 6:00p.m., there would be a discussion related to addiction among high school students also at the high school. This discussion is in part due to an increase in cases of alcohol and drug abuse issues at the high school during the school day.

Staffperson Foster reminded the Commission that recruitment is ongoing for a new alternate for the commission, and updated the Commission on two recent items:

- At the last Council meeting, officials from the University discussed its long-range development plan. The plan itself is being presented in poster format in the Nelson Building on campus.
- On the 5th Street land dedication site, 2990 Fifth Street, the updated proposals from the three selected applicants have been received and posted online, and will be presented to Council next week.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Minutes – September 21, 2015

Commissioner Kalman moved to approve the minutes of September 21, 2015. This was seconded by Commissioner Romero. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Regular Items

A. Need Area- Child Care Services.

Staffperson Foster introduced Tamiko Kwak, Senior Community Services Supervisor at the City of Davis, to discuss the transition of the City's child care program to outside providers. She told the Commission that during the recent recession, child care services funded by the State were hit especially hard. The funding, provided by grants from the Department of Education and Yolo County, also had administrative caps that restricted the ability of the City to properly fund the programs. When the decision was made to no longer offer child care services in the City, providers and the families in the program were given a year and a half notice of the changes. Two new agencies now offer the services, Children's Home Society and Child Action, Inc. Ms. Kwak also told the Commission that a partnership with the Yolo County Library system and the Toy Library (where parents can rent toys for their children) will potentially lead to free toy libraries in both the Davis and West Sacramento branches of the library.

In response to questions from the Commission, Ms. Kwak stated that the employees who had worked with Child Care services have found new positions with other agencies, and parents still have access to child care services in Davis. When asked about the potential for future funding cuts affecting the program, she stated that Davis was the only city previously to offer child care services, and that non-profit agencies offering services can have a variety of sources of funding that may be unavailable to cities, to help cover gaps.

B. CDBG/HOME Process Update.

Staffperson Heinig presented the follow-up to the previous meeting's discussion on the proposed changes to the CDBG and HOME grant application process. She detailed the updates to the proposal from the comments received at the previous meeting, including the discontinuation of all scheduled presentations from applicants. Commissioner Goldstene raised the issue that the language of the recommendations does not make the timeline for returning questions about applications or responses to those questions clear. She also questioned whether or not it was appropriate to prioritize groups previously awarded funding. The Commission discussed the question and agreed the language should be removed. The overall discussion also included comments that the process should be a dynamic one, allowing for further changes as needed.

At the end of this discussion, Commissioner Kalman moved to approve the staff recommendation to present the proposed changes to Council with three modifications:

1. Remove the language regarding funding priority for existing projects, and;
2. Add clear question and answer period language, and;
3. Add language to allow for changes in the process as needed.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and passed unanimously.

C. Discuss Critical Needs for CDBG and HOME Program Year 2016-2017.

Staffperson Heinig presented the informational item and reminded the Commission about the steps of the CDBG and HOME application process. She presented the Critical Needs list finalized from the previous year, used as the draft for the current year, and asked for any comments or suggestions from the Commission. Staffperson Foster detailed staff updates to the list, including removal of outdated references, language prioritizing an adult day center and added language focusing on trauma intervention in youth based on recent findings in ACEs research.

There was discussion on the changes suggested, the Commission agreeing with staff recommendations. When asked how an adult day center would differ from the Senior Center and the services offered at that location, Staffperson Foster replied that although the Senior Center does meet some of the needs addressed in adult day care, the programming is not consistent and is for seniors only, whereas an adult day center would be open to all adults and would have a different focus.

Commissioner Goldstene asked the Commission to answer the five questions laid out in the staff report to guide the update of the Critical Needs strategy. Commissioner Romero stated that the last two questions were most important. She said the current list is a long one, and it might be a good idea to raise three or four items up to the top of the list. There was also discussion about raising the minimum grant amount, or restricting grants to agencies with smaller operating budgets, but no additional changes were agreed to before the item was closed.

D. Davis Social Services Strategy Planning Update

Staffperson Foster introduced the report on the Social Services Strategy plan, and opened the discussion by asking the Commissioners to review the list of stakeholders to include in the planning process, and make any recommendations for additions. She also asked that they review the vision of the process as outlined. Commissioner Romero asked if there were plans to include the University in the process, since they offer a variety of social services to their students. Commissioner Kalman commented on the ambitious timeline included in the report, and asked if there was adequate time for staff to guide the process. Commissioner Wise asked if items could overlap and discussions could be held in tandem to save time. Mayor Protempore Davis cautioned the Commission that they were not starting at zero in this process – the homelessness summit and workgroups already formed, and scheduled discussions about teen drug use have already started the discussions in the community. The goal is to identify services and discover the best way deliver them, by looking at who is doing what, who are the first responders, and how do the different agencies (the school district, university, county and the city) coordinate their efforts. Commissioner Romero asked Mayor Protempore Davis what role the Council

envisioned for the Commission to play in the Social Services Strategy process. Councilperson Davis stated that the Council did not see the Commission as the guiding force in the process, but did see the Strategy as the guiding force behind recommendations for social services grant funding.

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Social Services Commission Workplan.

Staffperson Foster asked the Commission for guidance on the Teen Stress need area identified at previous meetings. She asked if the need area could be folded into the larger Social Services Strategy discussion and the commission agreed. Commissioner Goldstene asked about the Nishi project, and when the Commission would receive a presentation on it. She asked if the presentation would be about the entire project, not just the housing component. Staffperson Foster stated that she anticipated the item would be presented at the next meeting in November.

8. Adjourn

Commissioner Romero made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Kalman. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 9:11 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by,

Danielle Foster
Housing and Human Services Superintendent