



City of Davis

Social Services Commission Meeting Minutes
Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, CA 95616
Monday, November 21, 2016
7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Members Present: Claire Goldstene, Donald Kalman, Mindy Romero, Georgina Valencia (Alternate), R. Matthew Wise (Chair)

Absent: Ann Privateer, Tracy Tomasky, Bernita Toney

Staff and Consultants Present: Adrienne Heinig, Administrative Aide
Joan Planell, Social Services Consultant

Council Liaison Present: Robb Davis

Members of the Public Present: Christi Skibbins, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Yolo;
Katy Zane, Executive Director of STEAC;
John Bonner, Development Director, CommuniCare Health Centers,
Bill Ritter representing HighBridge Properties

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Wise.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstene moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Kalman, and the motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Goldstene, Kalman, Romero, Valencia, Wise

Noes: None

Absent: Privateer, Tomasky, Toney

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Joan Planell discussed the following topics:

1. The Point in Time (PIT) Count to be completed this year
2. Homelessness
3. The Sutter Foundation's "Getting to Zero" grant and the city's application for funds

Mayor Davis discussed work being undertaken with the University to bridge the divide and work together on issues surrounding alcohol abuse, the establishment of a group on campus focused on student recovery, and the inclusion of substance abuse within the formation of the Social Services Strategic plan.

Chairperson Wise mentioned the kickoff event for the California Center for Cooperative Development's Yolo County "Green Cleaning" project, and informed the commission that 7 women are participating.

4. Public Comment

Bill Ritter, representing HighBridge Properties, spoke about the Lincoln40 housing development project, which is in the planning process.

5. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and non-controversial, require no discussion, as items are expected to have unanimous support, and may be enacted by one motion.

A. Approval of Minutes – September 19, 2016

Commissioner Valencia moved, seconded by Commissioner Romero, to approve the minutes for September 19, 2016. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Goldstene, Romero, Valencia, Wise

Noes: None

Absent: Privateer, Tomasky, Toney

Abstain: Kalman

B. Approval of Minutes – October 17, 2016

Commissioner Valencia moved, seconded by Commissioner Romero, to approve the minutes for September 19, 2016. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Goldstene, Kalman, Romero, Valencia, Wise

Noes: None

Absent: Privateer, Tomasky, Toney

Abstain: Romero

6. Regular Items

A. Finalize Recommendations for Critical Needs List for CDBG and HOME Program Year 2017-2018.

A Heinig introduced the updated Critical Needs list, based on modifications to the format made by staff, and the comments provided by the Commission during the meeting in October.

Public Comment:

Christi Skibbins, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels: Davis-based efforts (funded through the CDBG grant), are only a part of the work done throughout the County. How will Commission evaluate the preference for smaller organizations with the fact that many organizations are county-wide, therefore larger.

Katy Zane, Executive Director of Short Term Emergency Aide Committee (STEAC) spoke on behalf of the food closet, stating that costs for the program have gone up in recent years, and told the Commission about a new bag lunch program underway.

John Bonner, Development Director for CommuniCare Health Centers, asked the Commission if the preferences would receive any additional weight when recommending organizations for funding. He also stated that CommuniCare's grant proposals have historically met all of the preference criteria.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Goldstene, describing the intent of the new preferences, emphasized the new reality of consistent reductions in federal grant funding. Redistributing grants away from larger organizations, potentially with the ability to absorb the cut, would be least harmful. Commissioner Wise voiced his concern that the size of the organization should not be the determinant of whether or not they receive funding, instead the delivery of services should be the focus. He also remarked on the fact that many agencies do operate county-wide, and thus have larger budgets. Commissioner Romero cautioned the Commission from changing the preference list now, as the current list provides flexibility of choice.

Commissioner Goldstene moved to approve the staff recommendation to recommend the City Council adopt the Critical Needs List for use in the upcoming CDBG and HOME Request for Proposals (RFP) process, with one minor modification to the wording of the second to last preference added to the list. The phrase “throughout the lifecycle” was added to the preference focusing on prevention and early intervention, to clarify those activities can be undertaken with beneficiaries of all ages. Commissioner Kalman seconded the motion, and the motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Goldstene, Kalman, Romero, Valencia

Noes: Wise

Absent: Privateer, Tomasky, Toney

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Social Services Commission Workplan.

A Heinig discussed the upcoming workplan, including the tentative items listed for January. The commissioners discussed the items.

8. Adjourn

Commissioner Valencia made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Romero. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Goldstene, Kalman, Romero, Valencia, Wise

Noes: None

Absent: Privateer, Tomasky, Toney

The meeting ended at 8:21 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by,

Adrienne Heinig
Administrative Aide