

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 2, 2014**

Present

Councilor Bruce Sorte, Chair
Councilor Mike Beilstein
Councilor Penny York

Staff

Nancy Brewer, City Manager *Pro Tem*
Ken Gibb, Community Development Director
Marci Laurent, Management Assistant
Carrie Mullens, City Manager's Office

Visitors

Jennifer Moore, United Way of Benton and Lincoln Counties (UWBLC) Executive Director
Lauren Caruso, UWBLC Community Impact Director
Joe Raia, Corvallis *TidBits*

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

| | Agenda Item | Info Only | Held for Further Review | Recommendations |
|-----|---|------------|-------------------------|---|
| I. | Social Services Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Final Report | | | Accept the Social Services final report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 |
| II. | Other Business • Pending Issues • Senior Center relocation (Raia) | Yes Yes | | |

Chair Sorte called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Social Services Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Final Report

Mr. Gibb reported that this is the final social services report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. UWBLC received \$328,300 (including levy funds) and allocated \$311,885. The remaining \$16,415 was the service fee paid to UWBLC for program administration per their contract with the City. UWBLC proposed a flat rate of \$8,000 for program administration for the next funding cycle versus the percentage of the total fund they currently receive. Mr. Gibb noted that many of the programs included in the final report are receiving funds from multiple funding sources.

Ms. Moore said staff consistently consider how to upgrade the content and context of the agency reports. During this reporting period, two new questions were included:

1. What was the biggest win in regards to this program?
2. What was the biggest obstacle to overcome in regards to this program?

Responses to these two questions help UWBLC obtain a better knowledge base about the different programs being performed in the community. The information

also provides a better understanding of how UWBLC can better support the agencies outside of the funding cycle.

Ms. Moore noted that the Community Impact Committee will be updating agency agreements and recommending two new policies to the UWBLC Board. One policy relates to outlining specific procedures for when an agency does not spend all of the funds awarded in a grant cycle. The second policy relates to actions when an interim or final report is submitted late without prior notification to UWBLC.

Councilor Beilstein said he is always impressed with the quality of services provided by local social service agencies. He noted that the Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center used their allocation for counseling services and that Community Outreach, Inc. identified positive results related to the Affordable Health Care Act.

In response to Councilor Beilstein's inquiries about Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, Mr. Gibb said approximately \$70,000 is available for social services from CDBG. Staff have considered the possibility of blending the UWBLC and CDBG social services allocation process; however, the strict federal requirements associated with CDBG funds led staff to conclude that CDBG funds should be closely managed in-house.

Ms. Moore added that, although the CDBG funding cycle completes before the UWBLC/City allocation cycle, UWBLC and City staff discuss program overlaps for agencies requesting funding from all three sources. UWBLC/City discussions have also included opportunities to synergize portions of applications to avoid duplication. She agreed that the federal regulations for CDBG funds are very stringent.

Councilor York opined that the coordination between UWBLC and City allocation programs works well. The allocation committee looked beyond individual programs to respond to community issues such as homelessness and food resources. She prefers the reporting approach of results rather than activities and noted that results do not always need to be numerical data. Councilor York highlighted items from several program reports:

- CARDV identified one obstacle as the lack of affordable housing.
- Many agencies noted the difficulty of choosing to help a few families with maximum funding or many families with minimal funding.
- The Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center highlighted efforts to cushion the impacts of poverty.
- Community Outreach, Inc. is beginning to see an impact with an increased number of low income individuals obtaining health insurance.
- Jackson Street Youth Shelter noted their improved organization, staffing, and transitional services. Streamlined/improved staffing is not an easy

improvement to observe, but it greatly impacts the quality of service and money spent.

- Old Mill Center highlighted their efforts in keeping children out of foster care.
- Parent Enhancement Center noted that approximately 38% of the clients they serve speak only Spanish.
- Corvallis Homeless Shelter Coalition noted that a good year for the Men's Cold Weather Shelter is when there are no deaths.

Councilor Beilstein said social services funding was reduced approximately four years ago. There is a gap between requested funding and allocations and he assumed that funds are being allocated to the best use. He inquired whether the City should try to fill the funding gap and if the Committee would support a recommendation to the Council and Budget Commission during the next budget cycle to restore funding levels to the historical amount.

Mr. Gibb clarified that social services funding was previously a base line amount adjusted annually by the Consumers Price Index.

Councilor York said she would prefer to discuss this issue when considering the entire budget. When social services funding was reduced, support for other programs was also reduced or eliminated, such as arts. She would first want to consider restoring funding for programs that were eliminated.

Chair Sorte requested staff provide the dollar amount that would have been available for social services funding if the original funding process been continued. Mr. Gibb said staff can provide information about the history of the fund as an attachment to the minutes (Attachment 1).

Ms. Brewer stated that an increase in social services funding would require a reduction elsewhere due to the Council-adopted sustainable green line budget.

Chair Sorte said when he reviews agency reports, he calculates the percentage of the City's allocation to the agency's total gross revenue. He suggested that future reports add a column identifying this percentage. He noted that some of the agencies were forced to request CDBG funds due to the reduction of social services funding. He added that the baby-boomer generation currently has surplus resources and is donating to social services. His research indicates that when baby-boomers reach age 70 they decrease their donations.

Chair Sorte opined that CDBG social services funds could be considered with UWBLC allocations; however, extensive training would be required due to the stringent federal regulations related to CDBG funds. He said jobs in social services are rapidly declining due to reduced federal funding. This should make it easier to hire social service staff with less expenditure. He added that he was impressed by the amount and quality of work being done by local agencies.

Mr. Gibb noted that UWBLC is hosting a meeting with community funders, including the City, to discuss issues and opportunities.

The Committee unanimously recommended Council accept the Social Services final report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

II. Other Business

Pending Items

Chair Sorte noted that there are no items scheduled for discussion by this Committee on October 7, 2014. The Commission for Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) submitted a final report of activities and suggestions for a new charge. He requested Ms. Brewer attend the meeting when the charge is discussed due to MLK suggestions about reporting.

Councilor Beilstein said MLK has been scheduled for November 4 along with recommendations from the Community Involvement and Diversity Advisory Board (CIDAB) Task Force.

Councilor York reported that the Chair of the CIDAB Task Force confirmed that their recommendations would most likely be available for the November 4 meeting.

Councilor York said it will be important to hear the MLK and CIDAB recommendations at the same meeting. Based on MLK recommendations there may be some overlap between MLK and CIDAB to consider.

Visitors' Propositions

Mr. Raia announced that he sent an email to Councilors requesting the Senior Center remain in its current location. He opined that the cost recovery method has negatively impacted the number of participants and trips planned by the Center. So many trips are canceled that it is not worth the staff time spent on planning. He noted that he is a volunteer trip leader for the Center. He confirmed that he has spoken with Parks and Recreation Director Emery and Senior Center Supervisor Bogdanovic about his concerns.

Councilor York said adjustments can be made to reduce the cancelation rate. It is not always about costs, it can be related to programming and sometimes programming lags behind attendance issues.

Mr. Raia said there are most likely several factors related to the high cancelation rate. He noted that some people have reached an age where they no longer participate at the Center, some seniors are working, and some seniors do not believe they are old enough for the Center.

Mr. Raia added that he is a Senior Center Foundation Board member. The Foundation is looking for opportunities to acquire additional funds for the scholarships they provide to Center participants.

He added that if the City wants greater participation, better notice is needed and the trip needs to be so well planned that if a potential participant misses the trip, they will understand that they have missed something really big.

Chair Sorte said he is concerned about the location of the Center and the lack of a human face. If trip costs are reduced, those individuals with financial capacity will attend. Data needs to be collected about who is not going on the trips and who would no longer participate if the Center was relocated. The 50+ age group lives in or near the Timberhill area, but that will change by 2025.

Mr. Raia said he is not suggesting free trips. The fee for the trip should be the cost of the trip without anything added on. Currently, many of the seniors who utilize the Center live in the area. In the future, that could change. Many current participants might find it challenging to travel to the CH2M Hill location. If the Center is relocated, there should be several over-riding positives related to the move. The City also needs to decide if the Center is going to remain a Senior Center or become a Community Center. He noted that the senior demographics will grow and the facility should meet the need.

Adjournment

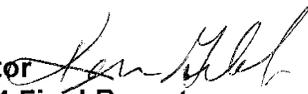
The meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, September 16 in the Madison Avenue Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Sorte, Chair

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 15, 2014
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Ken Gibb, Community Development Director 
SUBJECT: Follow-Up to HSC Social Services FY 13-14 Final Report
Request for Historical Funding Information

I. Issue

During review of the 2013-14 Final Social Services report, the Human Services Committee, requested information on the City's historical funding of social services.

II. Background

The attached document provides the City's social service funding history from FY 1998-99 to FY 2013-14. In FY 10-11, as part of the city-wide budget reductions, the City Council discontinued the methodology that began in FY 2005-06, and reduced funding to social services by 6.5%. The previous methodology determined the proposed funding by multiplying the previous year's funding amount by the CPI in December of that year. The far right column shows what the amount of funding would have been allocated to social services using this methodology.

IV. Action Requested

This is provided for informational purposes, no action is requested.

ATTACHMENT 1

Social Service Allocations
History of Funding and Administration Contract

| | Annual Allocation | Levy | Prior Year Carryover | Total Allocation w/ Carryover and/or levy | Contract UW (5%) Flat Rate Beginning 2015 | Allocated to Agencies | Total Allocated | Allocation Amt | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|----------------------|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Notes | Using Past Methodology Not Including Levy Total |
| FY 14-15 | 237,750 | 103,150 | 10,000 | 350,900 | 8,000 | 342,900 | 350,900 | Adopted Budget includes \$237,750 for SS + 113,150 Levy funding. | \$ 450,634 |
| FY 13-14 | 237,750 | 90,550 | | 328,300 | 16,415 | 311,885 | 328,300 | Adopted Budget includes \$237,750 + \$90,550 Levy funding. While \$107,390 was anticipated in the SS Levy, \$12,000 was heldback until the final AVI for FY 13-14 is known. Part of the 12K is to make-up for the FY12-13 overpayment of \$1,670. | \$ 438,360 |
| FY 12-13 | 237,750 | 106,840 | | 344,590 | 17,230 | 327,360 | 344,590 | Adopted Budget included \$237,750 + 106,840 Levy funding. | \$ 429,344 |
| FY 11-12 | 250,000 | 102,870 | | 352,870 | 17,644 | 335,225 | 352,870 | Adopted Budget included \$250,000 + 102,870 in Levy funding | \$ 416,434 |
| FY 10-11 | 379,870 | | | 379,870 | 18,994 | 360,877 | 379,870 | Adopted Budget reduced by 6.5% in all Non-Departmental Funding. Social Service Allocation Reduction (406,271 x 6.5% = 26,401) | \$ 406,271 |
| FY 09-10 | 432,250 | | | 432,250 | 21,613 | 410,638 | 432,250 | based on 08-09 + 2.7% CPI, plus \$28,000 one-time Budget Commission add | |
| FY 08-09 | 393,620 | | | 393,620 | 19,681 | 373,939 | 393,620 | based on 07-08 plus 3.7% CPI | |
| FY 07-08 | 379,580 | | | 379,580 | 18,979 | 360,601 | 379,580 | based on 06-07 plus 2.6% CPI | |
| FY 06-07 | 369,960 | | | 369,960 | 18,460 | 351,500 | 369,960 | based on 05-06 plus 5% CPI | |
| *FY 05-06 | 360,580 | | 2,875 | 363,455 | 18,173 | 345,287 | 360,580 | carryover from 04-05 | |
| FY 04-05 | 349,400 | | | 349,400 | 17,470 | 331,930 | 349,400 | | |
| FY 03-04 | 344,580 | | | 344,580 | 17,229 | 327,351 | 344,580 | reduction was a part of the service reductions (include 2 of 3 potential cuts) | |
| FY 02-03 | 404,690 | | | 404,690 | 20,234 | 384,456 | 404,690 | | |
| FY 01-02 | 395,590 | | | 395,590 | 19,779 | 375,811 | 395,590 | | |
| FY 00-01 | 385,440 | | 5,000 | 390,440 | 19,522 | 370,918 | 385,440 | carryover from 99-00 of unused funds | |
| FY 99-00* | 370,720 | | | 370,720 | 18,536 | 352,184 | 370,720 | | |
| FY 98-99 | 364,800 | | | 364,800 | 18,240 | 346,560 | 364,800 | | |
| | | | | 6,315,615 | 306,198 | 6,009,421 | 6,307,740 | | |

* Proposed Allocation based on prior year's funding + CPI as of December of the Previous Year

i.e. FY 08-09 would be calculated in the Proposed Budget as follows:
 FY 07-08 Funding Amt \$ 379,580
 x's Dec 2007 CPI of 3.7 14,044
 \$ 393,624 rounded to nearest 10