HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
November 18, 2019
Minutes

Members Present: Morgan, Naeyaert, Sebolt, Slaughter, and Stivers

Members Absent: Tennis and Trubac

Others Present: Tim Morgan, Melissa Buzzard, Linda Vail, Adenike Shoyinka, Monica Jahner, Stuart Chavis, Sandra Kowalk-Thompson, Denise Paquette, Brady Calkins, Erika Brown-Binion, Marion Owen, Eric Hewitt, Susan Cancro, Judi Harris, Melissa Blood, Margaret Brown, Jared Cypher, Liz Noel, and others

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson Sebolt at 6:30 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room “D & E” of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the November 4, 2019 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. NAeyaERT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2019 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

Linda Vail, Chief Health Officer, introduced Adenike Shoyinka, Medical Director, to the Committee.

Dr. Shoyinka thanked Ms. Vail for the introduction. She stated she looked forward to continuing the good work that the County did with health equity.

MOVED BY COMM. MORGAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION ITEMS:

2. Facilities Department – Resolution to Authorize a Contract Renewal with Safety Systems, Inc. for Alarm Monitoring Services at Forest Community Health Center
4. **Health Department**  
   a. Resolution to Authorize a Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Clean Sweep Program Agreement with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)  
   b. Resolution to Authorize an Agreement with Redhead Design Studio for Dissemination of Mass Media Campaign to Reduce HIV Stigma  
   c. Resolution to Authorize Agreements for the Region 7 Perinatal Collaborative

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

1. **Community Agencies** – Resolution Authorizing 2020 Agreements for Community Agencies

MOVED BY COMM. NAEYAERT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Acting Chairperson Sebolt asked those satisfied with the recommended level of funding for the agency to stand, state their name and agency, and affirm their support for the funding level provided. The following individuals did so:

- Stuart Chavis, Southside Community Coalition
- Sandra Kowalk-Thompson, Boys and Girls Club of Lansing
- Denise Paquette, Allen Neighborhood Center
- Brady Calkins, Capital Area Housing Partnership
- Erika Brown-Binion, Refugee Development Center
- Marion Owen, Tri-County Office on Aging
- Eric Hewitt, RSVP
- Susan Cancro, Advent House and Homeless Resolution Network
- Judi Harris, St. Vincent’s Catholic Charities Refugee Services
- Melissa Blood, Lansing Area AIDS Network
- Margaret Brown, Rural Family Services

Monica Jahner, Northwest Initiative ARRO Program, stated that last year, the organization’s application had not been submitted but the Committee had been generous enough to give Northwest Initiative half of the requested $10,000. She further stated that she was grateful for the recommended funding amount this year, however, the organization’s work was going to be more important in the coming years as there would be a reduction in jail admissions and more offenders would be staying in the community.

Ms. Jahner stated that Northwest Initiative was the only agency in the community that provided wraparound programs that included therapy and cognitive behavioral services.

Commissioner Slaughter asked how much the organization was requesting from the County.
Ms. Jahner stated last year, the organization had gotten $5,000 when they had asked for $10,000. She further stated that the organization would take what they could get from the County.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked what other sources of funding the agency had.

Ms. Jahner stated that the County was the only funding source for the reentry program, as the Capital Area United Way recently changed its programming funding stream. She further stated that a poetry reading fundraiser was held, but it usually did not generate funds.

MOVED BY COMM. MORGAN, SUPPORTED BY COMM. STIVERS, TO AMEND THE FUNDING LEVELS BY REMOVING $4,500 IN FUNDING FOR ST. VINCENT CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND ADDING FUNDING IN THE AMOUNTS OF $3,750 TO THE REFUGEE DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND $750 TO THE HAVEN HOUSE.

Commissioner Morgan stated he wished the County had enough money to fund everything, but one of the strategic goals of the County was to provide funding for direct aid to the residents, including clothing, food, and shelter. He further stated this amendment would achieve that goal by supporting the Refugee Development Center and Haven House.

THE MOTION TO AMEND THE FUNDING LEVELS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

Acting Chairperson Sebolt disclosed that he had a family member who worked for St. Vincent Catholic Charities.

3. Parks Department
   a. Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to the Contract with Spicer Group, Inc.

MOVED BY COMM. STIVERS, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAeyaert, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Morgan asked for a brief overview of the amendment to the contract with Spicer Group.

Melissa Buzzard, Trails and Parks Coordinator, stated that Spicer Group had done a bulk of the work for the County’s wayfinding signage project, this year. She further stated that the company had to collect a large amount of data from communities and it was a significant amount of work.

Commissioner Morgan asked how often the County looked for other vendors available to provide a service.

Tim Morgan, Parks Director, stated that the agreement with the Spicer Group had been a two-year agreement with the option to renew the agreement for another two years. He further stated
this was the first year of the renewal of the agreement, and the services would be up for Requests for Proposal in 2020, provided the Trails and Parks Millage renewal was approved in 2020.

Commissioner Stivers stated in a vote of confidence for the Spicer Group, the company made presentations to the Parks Commission, and she was impressed with the thoroughness of their work and the attention to detail. She further stated she was confident in the wayfinding work the Spicer Group was doing.

Commissioner Morgan stated he did not have any issue with the Spicer Group, he just wanted there to be a check on contracts and vendors once in a while.

Mr. Morgan stated there had been two proposals submitted the previous time the contract had been up for bid. He further stated the process had been very thorough before Spicer Group had been selected over the Landscape Architects & Planners.

Commissioner Morgan asked how vendors were notified of the Request for Proposal.

Mr. Morgan stated that the Purchasing Department sent the Request for Proposal out to about 180 vendors across the state.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

3. Parks Department
   b. Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to the City of Lansing Trails and Parks Millage Agreements

MOVED BY COMM. NAeyaERT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. STIVERS, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Morgan asked for a quick summary of the amendment to the City of Lansing Trails and Parks Millage agreements.

Mr. Morgan stated the City of Lansing Parks Department had been invited to the Committee meeting, but they were not in attendance.

Ms. Buzzard stated that there had been Department of Environmental Quality permits for endangered aquatic species and additional costs incurred for riverbank stabilization. She further stated that in the first agreement, no match was required of the City of Lansing, but match would be required for the additional funds.

Mr. Morgan stated that many bids had been coming in over-budget, even with the use of consultants. He further stated that the economy was doing well, and there were not a lot of bids put in for the projects because all companies were busy and the bids that were received were higher than expected.
Mr. Morgan stated that over the past few years, prices had not been low. He further stated that he did not remember the last time a project came in under-bid.

Commissioner Morgan asked if the high bids had been taken into consideration for future projects.

Mr. Morgan stated that the consultants looked at recent similar project bids for reference when estimating the engineering cost of projects, but the cost was still increasing every year.

Discussion.

Acting Chairperson Sebolt stated he recalled the Board of Commissioners had increased the limit of available funds in the trails. He asked if the Trails and Parks Millage funds were being potentially overcommitted in the event that the millage was not renewed next year.

Ms. Buzzard stated the funds would be overcommitted if the millage was not renewed.

Active Chairperson Sebolt asked if there was a clause in the agreement that made the funds contingent on the millage renewal passage.

Ms. Buzzard stated to date, there was no clause in the agreement.

Mr. Morgan stated if the Committee wished to add a clause to the agreement in the event the millage renewal did not pass, it would need to be brought back to the City of Lansing to see if the vendor was willing to hold the prices until spring of 2020.

Discussion.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Tennis and Trubac

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Stivers asked on behalf of the Trails and Parks Millage team, if the Committee would like to see in the recommendations and scoring for the new millage, a breakdown of the recommended funds per year, or if the Committee would prefer the total amount.

Commissioner Slaughter stated he would appreciate the funding recommendations broken down by year.

Discussion.

Acting Chairperson Sebolt thanked Jared Cypher, Deputy Controller, for his hard work in preparing the community agency application binders for the Committee.
Commissioner Naeyaert asked if the Finance Committee changed what the Human Services Committee approved for community agency funding, that would be what would go to the full Board of Commissioners meeting.

Mr. Cypher stated that the Finance Committee met last, so they would have the ultimate authority on what was presented to the full Board of Commissioners.

Discussion.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

[Signature]

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD