HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
June 15, 2020
Minutes

Members Present: Trubac, Stivers, Tennis, Koenig, Morgan, Slaughter, and Naeyaert.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Jared Cypher, Natrenah Blackstock, Lindsey McKeever, Elizabeth Noel, and Michael Tanis.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Trubac at 6:30 p.m. virtually via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 2020-75 regarding the Open Meetings Act.

Approval of the June 1, 2020 Minutes

CHAIRPERSON TRUBAC STATED THAT, WITHOUT OBJECTION, THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2020 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Limited Public Comment

None.

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

2. **Fair Office** – Resolution Adjusting Horse Show Fees for 2020

3. **Health Department** – Resolution to Amend Resolutions #19-552 and #19-507 and to Authorize an Agreement with Community Mental Health for the Region 7 Perinatal Collaborative

4. **Community Agencies** – Resolution Approving Criteria for Evaluating 2021 Community Agency Funding Applications

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert
THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Naeyaert

Please note that later in the meeting, the rules were suspended to allow Commissioner Naeyaert to vote on the consent agenda. She voted in favor of the items on the consent agenda.

1. Veterans Affairs – 2019 Veterans Services Grant (Discussion)

Discussion.

CHAIRPERSON TRUBAC STATED THAT, WITHOUT OBJECTION, THE RULES WOULD BE SUSPENDED TO ALLOW COMMISSIONER NAeyaERT TO VOTE ON THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Naeyaert voted in favor of the items on the consent agenda.

Discussion.

Natrenah Blackstock, Director of Veterans Affairs, updated the Human Services Committee on the timeline of the 2019 Veterans Services Grant.

Commissioner Tennis asked how she would now characterize her working relationship with the Veterans Affairs Board.

Ms. Blackstock stated that things had greatly improved. She further stated that she thought it was helpful to talk to the County Attorney to clarify what the relationship should look like.

Commissioner Koenig asked how significantly the loss of $50,000 impacted her budget.

Ms. Blackstock stated that it caused a big problem. She further stated that the main concern was the loss of a Resource Center and a kiosk.

Ms. Blackstock stated that everything that she had foreseen because of military statistics aligned with the 2019 Veterans Services Grant. She further stated that, because things were not in place, they had to work around it during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Blackstock stated that it was unfortunate that a national crisis took place, and things that would have been in place were not, such as the Resource Center. She further stated that veterans would have had the opportunity to come in and have Zoom conferences, and meet with the Regional VA Office through their department.

Ms. Blackstock stated that a kiosk would have been in place, so that it would have been an easier communication between the veterans and their staff through remote access. She further stated that, however, they were resilient in their department, so they were able to take the remote access that was budgeted for 2 years ago, tie that into the crisis, and still serve their veterans.

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Commissioner Koenig asked if she had plans to apply for another grant, or to create the same thing out of an existing budget. She further asked where the kiosk would be located.

Ms. Blackstock stated that the kiosk would have been located in their lobby. She further stated that she was able to resubmit the 2019 Veterans Services Grant again for this year, and the funding was currently pending.

Commissioner Slaughter asked if the previous issues with SIGMA regarding vendor and address codes had been resolved.

Ms. Blackstock stated that the issues had been resolved. She further stated that, last year, the funds were deposited into the account and seen in the line-item, but were deposited on September 18, 2019, and had to be spent by September 30, 2019.

Ms. Blackstock stated that 2019 served as a pilot program, and they were able to fix the glitches. She further stated that, as of last week, it was at the County Attorney’s Office receiving final signature and hopefully by this week, it would be brought before the Board of Commissioners for final signatures, and then submitted back to the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) office for deposit.

Discussion.

Announcements

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD