

Approved 4/27/15  
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HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION  
Minutes of Special Meeting  
January 31, 2015

Commissioners Present: Chairwoman Karen Roy Guglielmi, Charita Alston, Bill Campbell, Terilyn Rogers, Mike Winkler.

Commissioners Absent: James Purnell

Staff Liaisons Present: Alan Slobodien, Youth Services

Approval of Minutes – N/A

Communications & Correspondence

None

Human Services Budget 2015-16

Chairwoman Roy-Guglielmi called the meeting to order at 9:00am. The Chair noted that no representatives from Hockanum Valley Child Day Care Center were available to attend today's meeting. A discussion was then held regarding the request from Hockanum Valley Child Day Care Center (School Readiness Program) to submit a late funding application. This discussion ended at 9:30 with the arrival of the CT Legal Services representatives.

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Funding Interviews

Linda Spada and Joelen Gates from CT Legal Services were introduced to the HSC and began their presentation regarding services provided by CLS. Ms. Spada noted that clients were not assessed a fee but needed to pass an income litmus test of being at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines to receive CLS services. Following their presentation, questions were asked clarifying the difference between CLS and Hartford Legal Services. It was the Hartford group that brought suit against the Town several years ago. The question and answer period continued until shortly after 10am at which point Chairwoman Roy-Guglielmi ended the CLS presentation in accordance with the meeting agenda.

Shortly after 10am, David O'Rourke, COO and David Fowler, CFO representing Hockanum Valley Community Council were introduced to the HSC and began their presentation to the Commission. Hockanum Valley is requesting funds in four service areas: Basic Needs (food pantry), Elder Services, Transportation and Outpatient Mental Health. Following a lengthy presentation and question and answer period, Mr. O'Rourke and Mr. Fowler thanked the Commission and ended their presentation at 11:10am. and exited the building.

Funding Deliberations

The Commissioners present began deliberations for their funding recommendations to the Mayor. After lengthy discussion, it was decided to present a bottom-line budget of \$223,449 to the Mayor. This represents a decrease of \$3,500 from FY 2014-15 budget; Tri-County ARC did not submit a funding request and this void equals \$3,500. There was significant discussion regarding the need to

fund Visiting Nurse and Health Services as their revenue and expense sheets show a positive balance of \$4 million.

Mike Winkler made the following motion: The HSC will set an additional special meeting and invite Visiting Nurse and Health Services to present their budget request to the HSC. This motion was seconded by Bill Campbell. Following discussion the HSC voted 4 nay and 1 abstention to the motion.

Mr. Winkler made another motion: The HSC adopt a budget of \$223,449 and fund the agencies requesting funds at the 2014-15 levels with the exception of Tri-County ARC as this group did not request funds for 2015-16. The \$4,000 request from Hockanum Valley Child Day Care Center (School Readiness Program) would be funded per two conditions: the HSC receives a funding application no later than February 6, 2015 and that funds are utilized to support teaching staff. The motion was seconded by Bill Campbell. Following discussion the HSC voted unanimously in favor of this motion.

Chairwoman Roy-Guglielmi noted that Charita will present the HSC budget to the Town Council in her absence and adjourned the meeting at 12:15pm.

Submitted by  
Alan Slobodien