



City of Redmond Human Services Commission  
Meeting Summary  
Monday, December 9, 2013  
6:30-8:30 pm

**Members Present:** Lynn Fleshman, Carolyn Mansfield, Steve Daschle, Valerie Bays, Jason Dick

**Staff Present:** Brooke Buckingham, Alaric Bien

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**November Meeting Summary:** Approved

**Updates from Commissioners:**

- Jason reported that Meadowbrook Church can host the American Winter screening. Decided on first choice Wednesday, January 29, 6:30-9:00, otherwise Thursday or Tuesday that week. Should have coffee/tea and cookies. Ask Council to help spread the word.
- Carolyn went to the Eastside Human Services Forum event on comprehensive plans. Ideas included: how to connect with our planning commission, tweaking the Human Services element to include winter shelter and long term winter shelter, put a review of the comprehensive plan on our work plan. Next year we are also due to update the Human Services strategic plan, which is the action plan, and must agree with comprehensive plan's Human Services section.

**Updates from Staff:**

- Men's winter shelter went from 14 on first night to 24 on second to 48 later that week. They have averaging about 38 per night, but have been over capacity (50+) on many nights. Women's shelter has been averaging about 16 per night.
- The Executive Director of Rising Out of the Shadows (ROOTS) sent a nice note of appreciation for Redmond's addition of 5 youth shelter beds. Alaric will forward the email.
- The loitering of homeless individuals at the library seems to have been resolved through a combination of additional services, enforcement, dialogue with the King County Library System, and collaboration across city departments. Although they are no longer as visible at the library, there are still homeless people in our community.
- The city continues to work across departments on a city-wide coordinated response to homelessness.

**Old Business:**

Update on Status of Sophia Way

The latest word is that their finances will be stabilized if all their financial commitments come through: \$50K King County, advance payment from United Way plus some extra, \$5K Kirkland, \$8K Bellevue, and \$20K Redmond (now asking for \$24K). Issaquah may be able to contribute \$5K.

These monies would be contingent on The Sophia Way receiving technical assistance with financial management and board development. They will also not assume operations of the Day Center until 4/1/14, and then with reduced hours based on existing city funding.

After discussion, commission decided to recommend \$24,000 for The Sophia Way if we are also looped in on the oversight through King County and United Way.

#### Out of Cycle Funding

Commission clarified their recommendation that the reserves not go below 1% of the total general fund allocation and that they were not concerned about an upper limit.

#### **New Business:**

#### Funding guidelines for 2015-2016

Commission suggested issuing a statement of reassurance to agencies that they should request what they need. But question is why they would even ask for more if there is no new funding? Discussed the possibility of soliciting requests for one time capacity building grants of \$25K via 140 character tweets. Purpose would be to find out from agencies what they really need, and awaken the possibility for organizations to consider Redmond who haven't before.

Issue of core services definition and possible different funding mechanism is still to be determined, as is the potential for a family and education type levy in Redmond. Will continue to discuss in the new year.

#### Chair and Vice Chair Appointments

Jason was unanimously approved for Commission Chair in 2014 and Carolyn for Vice Chair. Discussed the idea of implementing a practice of having 2 year terms and considering the Vice Chair as Chair Elect. No decision made.

#### Year in Review

Commission was further educated/informed on key issues, including homelessness, health care, collective impact, city demographics, funding process and gaps. Began to work on partnership with the schools and also learned from Parks that working with individual schools is often more effective. Worked to increase community engagement, and now have better understanding of staff work on internal and external collaborations.

Commissioners felt they figured out more who they are as a commission. Also worked on using American Winter to engage community. They felt that the monthly staff reports were useful.