



## Human Services Commission

### Meeting Summary

Monday, January 14, 2019, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

**Members Present:** Sue Stewart, Anny Smith, Jacob Brown, Abril Martinez Rodriguez, Josh McQueen, Arjun Ram, Shawn Roland

**Staff:** Brooke Buckingham, Alaric Bien

Public Comment: none

December 10 Meeting Summary: approved

#### Updates from Commissioners

Introduced new Youth Advisor Jacob Brown to the commission.

#### Updates from Staff

Provided more detail on city's cultural inclusion consultant and plan. Chanin Kelly-Rae has conducted training with the interdepartmental Cultural Inclusion Work Group and the Leadership Team (Mayor and department directors). Work Group will be meeting this month to lay out a plan for how to go about training all city staff over the next 2 years. Shawn requests that board and commission members also be trained.

#### Team Building Activity

Commissioners learned about each other through Power of the Potluck activity.

#### Officer Elections

Anny and Shawn were unanimously elected to serve as chair and vice chair, respectively in 2019.

#### Additional One Time Funds

Of the additional \$100,000 allocated by Council in the next biennium, approximately \$75,000 will be used to fully fund the requests from programs that provide one-time direct assistance to clients: Attain Housing-Welcome Home Program, Child Care Resources-Child Care Financial Assistance and Homeless Child Care Programs, Hopelink-Financial Assistance Resiliency Program, and LifeWire-Housing Stability Program.

Commission discussed how to allocate the remaining \$24,882. Options included funding the year round women's shelter; a small grant program for grass roots agencies; a maximum

of \$5,000 for pilot youth engagement project(s); community engagement/education speaker series on topics such as opioid crisis, housing stability, homelessness, racism, mental health, LGBTQI issues, domestic violence/sexual assault, cultural inclusion; and summer feeding program. Decision was made to allocate \$20,000 toward the women's shelter capital needs and the remainder to community engagement activities.

### 2019 Work Plan

Reaffirmed that topics from last month's meeting are still of interest. Additional items for consideration include studying barriers to affordable housing, opportunities to do things as a commission such as KCLS hosted "How to Be an Ally" to the LGBTQI community, overcoming barriers to equity of opportunity, inclusion/welcoming, policies around housing and homelessness in Redmond, accessibility of funding for grassroots organizations, immigrant community needs and how they are being addressed.

Shawn raised issue of proposed 6 month moratorium on senior housing. Shared that it was tied to the proposed expansion of Emerald Heights. There will be a public comment period in February if it is passed at tomorrow night's council meeting. Shawn moved that the commission use its authority to advise the Mayor and Council on human service issues and recommend a no vote on the proposed ordinance for a 6 month moratorium related to retirement residences. Jacob seconded the motion. Commission unanimously approved. Anny will work with Shawn on specific language and transmit this recommendation to Mayor and Council tomorrow.

### Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities

Reviewed and modified group norms. Will post during meetings for several months after new commission members are seated. Reiterated importance of meeting attendance and of notifying staff when not able to attend.