

## MEETING SUMMARY

### REDMOND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

**Monday, February 13, 2023 - 6:30 pm**

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#### 1. Call to Order

Commissioners present: Rachid Erekaïni, Kathleen Reynolds, Jung Lee, Arisha Gupta

Staff present: Brooke Buckingham, Alaric Bien

#### 2. Items From the Audience: none

#### 3. Agency Presentations

- [Bighug-KARC](#) - Eddie Cha, Program Manager & Lori Wada, Director  
Over 3,000 Koreans in Redmond,  
BigHug has helped 23 small businesses with Dept of Commerce grants and emergency loans; have worked with more than 800 small businesses statewide  
Seeing a need for 1:1 guidance as business are shifting from traditional industries (eg dry cleaning) to new endeavors due to the pandemic  
Besides business issues, volunteers are seeing need for youth/intergenerational work, tech seminars, tax assistance  
Biggest challenge is staffing since they are so heavily reliant on volunteers, and outreach via radio, newspaper, social media
- [Kin On Health Care Center](#) - Faye Chien, Director of Community Wellness and Social Services  
Kin On provides aging services for Asian elders and their families in 5 areas: healthy living program, home and community services, supportive housing, short term rehab and volunteer program  
Office in Crossroads for activities to promote healthy living and help seniors age in place  
Volunteer program is separate and complementary to healthy living activities
- [Immigrant Women's' Community Center](#) unable to attend due to family emergency

#### 4. Meeting Summary: January 9, 2023 meeting summary approval postponed until next month due to lack of quorum

#### 5. Diversity Equity and Inclusion

Jung reviewed the city's definitions of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and the role of the Human Services Commission. Commissioners spared some of their personal experiences

and commitment to DEI. Proposal to build a resource library to further individual learning and growth.

## **6. Fund Balance**

Staff reviewed how we've handled fund balances in the past: roll into a future allocation, run a mini request for proposals, fund one time requests, emergency uses. Similar to how we had guiding principles for COVID general funds, staff seeks input on how to approach fund balances moving forward. What questions should we be asking?

Commission would like staff to identify what opportunities we might have missed in the last funding cycle, and review the minimum amount required for commission approval vs staff only decision. Staff will bring forward draft proposals next meeting.

## **7. Funding Formula**

Postponed to next meeting when more commissioners are in attendance.

## **8. Commissioner & Staff Updates**

- Kathleen reported on her tour of the Together Center last week with Jung. They were very impressed by the passion of the executive director and capital campaign manager. Ground floor will have space for nonprofit providers, some designed for specific organizations. There will also be dedicated conference space and a demonstration kitchen. Cascadia College will be moving in as a new tenant, providing English as a Foreign Language and General Educational Development Test preparation. 80 units, majority 2 and 3 bedroom will open in April for 30-50% Area Median Income (AMI), and 200 units for 50-60% AMI at end of summer. Residents will not be required to move when their income rises.
- Brooke reported that she is on the review panel for the Health Through Housing service provider at the old Silver Cloud Inn. Once the operator is chosen, they will work on a good neighbor agreement, safety plan, etc. The County, who owns the property, thinks they will have contract in March
- Question if Commission wants to do something coinciding with the grand opening of the Together Center in the fall.
- Of the eight applicants for the vacant commission seat, three were interviewed by Rachid, Kathleen and Alaric. One will be moving forward and interviewing with the Mayor shortly.