



City of Tacoma Human Services Commission

Wednesday, February 9, 2022
6:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Laura Badeaux, Vice Chair Marvin Cooks, Naomi Wilson, Noemi Cagatin-Porter, Secretary Andee Walton, Leslie Mintaraga, Wilton Waverly, Jason Grube, Rebecca Stith, Valentine Smith, Amanda Scott-Thomas

Members Absent:

Rahn Clayton, Nate Minor

Staff Present: Allyson Griffith (NCS)

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks at 6:08

- Roll call
- Secretary Walton volunteered to Chair the meeting in absence of a Chair and late arrival/technical difficulties of Vice Chair Cooks.

2. Approval of the February agenda at 6:10

- Motion by Commissioner Mintaraga to approve, second by Commissioner Waverly. Approved unanimously.

3. Review/Approval of January minutes at 6:12

- Commissioner Waverly motioned to accept minutes and Commissioner Cagatin-Porter seconded.
- Commissioner Stith abstained from vote due to January meeting's absence. Approved unanimously by all others.

4. Public Comment at 6:13

- No written comments to read or attendees to comment.

5. Nomination of Chair at 6:14

- Commissioner Wilson nominates herself for Chair position.
- Commissioner Waverly motions to put voting for Commissioner Wilson as Chair be added to next month's agenda and Commissioner Stith seconds. Approved unanimously.
- Commissioner Wilson asks for clarification on the admittance of other nominees. Allyson Griffith clarifies that other nominees may submitted, in writing, prior to the publication of the next month's agenda.

6. CDBG/ESG Funding Process at 6:22



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- Jason McKenzie, Resource Manager for the Neighborhood and Community Services Department presents recommendations of HUD fund allocations for each grant for HSC's approval.
 - i. Recommendations for CDBG funds to be split evenly between:
 1. Valeo Vocation Shelter Training Academy,
 2. Graffiti and Garbage Cleanup (no specific providers yet),
 3. Day Center services for young adults at Beacon Community Center.
 - ii. Recommendations for ESG funds to be split equally between emergency shelters and rapid re-housing.
 - iii. Not recommending homeless prevention at this time until coordinated entry, as required by HUD, is improved, in the future.
- Commissioner Cagatin-Porter inquired about the organizations for emergency shelters and rapid re-housing.
 - i. Answer: Associated Ministries and Exodus Housing.
- Commissioner Wilson inquired about the reason for allocating CDBG funds between recommended organizations in equal thirds, requesting past expenditures on garbage and graffiti cleanup due to their possible high expense.
 - i. Answer: Staff talks landed in recommended prioritizations. Previous sum for garbage and graffiti to be provided as soon as possible.
- Commissioner Wilson asks about additional funding sources to Valeo and street clean-up.
 - i. Answer: yes, there are other possible funds. More to be discussed at next HSC meeting's presentation.
- Commissioner Wilson asked about timeline required to use funds.
 - i. Answer: June 30th, 2023, for CDBG. ESG has 24 months, but City historically seeks to use funds within one year.
- Commissioner Wilson asks how the funding for Valeo would be allocated.
 - i. Answer: funds are allocated between to both staffing and stipends for training academy participants.
- Commissioner Wilson asks how long the training academy has been in effect.
 - i. Answer: recently; since pandemic, as administrators have identified the staffing gap.
- Commissioner Walton asks about the role of Public Works in graffiti and garbage removal.
 - i. Answer: Public Works removes graffiti and garbage for City property; private property and encampment clean-up are provided through contracted services.
- Commissioner Stith motions to approve recommendations. Commissioner Waverly seconds and the recommendations are approved unanimously.

7. Review/Excuse Absences at 6:48



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- Commissioner Cagatin-Porter motions to approve Commissioner Clayton's absence. Commissioner Wilson seconds. Approved unanimously.

8. Good of the Order at 6:51

- Commissioner Wilson asks for update on outreach to the homeless encampment under the I-705 bridge.
 - i. Answer: HEAL team contacted 51 individuals within that encampment. Of them, eight accepted resources.
- Commissioner Stith reminds HSC of her term coming to an end and the need for active recruitment of new commissioners. Commissioner Stith may not be able to attend final meetings due to personal obligations.
- Commissioner Walton expresses professional conflicts with regular meeting attendance for upcoming months, temporarily. Commissioner Smith offers to take minutes in her place.
- Discussion around review of recruitment process at next meeting due to the possibility of five vacancies approaching in May.
- Commissioner Wilson requests a count/snapshot for current number of homeless within County.
 - i. Answer: County will not have that data by March meeting. Data will be provided to HSC as soon as it's available.
- Review of topics for next meeting's agenda:
 - i. Election of Chair,
 - ii. Items around brainstorming for work plan items HSC would like to come forward
 - iii. High-level competitive process for new HSC applicants.
- Commissioner Wilson and Smith ask for review or update on previously funded projects for next meeting's agenda.
 - i. Answer: may not be possible by next meeting. Allyson Griffith requests e-mail detailing specifics of the information commissioners are seeking. Commissioners Wilson and Smith agree.

9. Closing Comments/Adjourn at 6:59

- None.
- Commissioner Walton adjourns meeting at 7:00.