

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
Minutes of Meeting, February 5, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carrie Healy, Ron Lambe, Bill Lenehan, Elma (Pat) Maye, Marc Meulman, Jason Sims, Mike Thomspson, Amy Tuley, Joanne Willson, Logan Wessendorf (Youth Advisory Committee Liaison)

STAFF PRESENT: Vicki Georgeau, Deputy Director of Neighborhood Services

OLD BUSINESS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 29, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted, 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Metro Transit ADA Advisory Board Committee/County Transit Authority update – Lenehan and Lambe provided updates that most activity has centered around the new millage proposals and efforts to educate citizens on what the millage proposals entail and will accomplish, and what the impact would be if the millages failed.
2. FY 2009-10 Human/Public Service Applications: The Board reviewed the applications from both the General Fund and CDBG Fund for FY 2009-10. Lambe indicated he would abstain from discussion and voting on the General Fund applications due to a conflict of interest as he serves on the Board of Disability Network. Maye indicated she would abstain from discussion and voting on the CDBG Fund application due to a conflict of interest as she works for the Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan, which is a sub-recipient of CDBG funds. Staff provided a table that summarized funding available, funding trends, and calculated applications scores provided by the Board to derive average application score. The Board ranked the General Fund applications as follows: Portage Community Center (PCC)-1st; Catholic Family Services-2nd; YWCA-3rd; Housing Resources-4th; Gryphon Place-5th; Goodwill Industries-6th; Disability Network-7th; Prevention Works-8th. The Board did not rank the PCC CDBG Fund application as PCC was the sole applicant, and the Board determined that the evaluation criteria for the PCC Fund Development application from the General Fund was not applicable. Tuley recommended to not fund the application from Prevention Works as it was not consistent with the Mission Statement, and while the program was important, given the economic climate, funding did not seem appropriate. Board members concurred, noting the proposal would not provide direct services and questioned if the program could demonstrate measurable results. A motion was made by Tuley, supported by Lenehan, that no funding is recommended to City Council for Prevention Works. Upon voice vote: Carrie Healy-Yes, Ron Lambe-Abstained, Bill Lenehan-Yes, Elma (Pat) Maye-Yes, Marc Meulman-Yes, Jason Sims-Yes, Mike Thomspson-Yes, Amy Tuley-Yes, Joanne Willson-Yes. The motion carried 8-0, with 1 abstention.

With regard to the remaining General Fund applications, Board members discussed making recommendations based on rankings, and whether to consider the requested funding, current level of funding, or a combination of both. Maye noted a community need to assist low-income renters with a disabilities. Willson noted the variation between the funding request and current funding for Catholic Family Services, and recalled the applicant noted Portage services had increased over the years. Sims noted it would be helpful to get more information from applicants with regard to the outcomes of their current programs. Meulman noted funding should be tied closely to the applicant ranking. Several Board members noted current applicants had received the approximate same level of funding for many years, with a large proportion of funding awarded to PCC as the only human service agency within Portage. The Board inquired with staff as to whether or not PCC receive the full amount of the Fund Development grant application. Staff explained that such funding was tied to performance, and that PCC is generally on track with meeting the requirements of the contract. Nevertheless, the Board can make a recommendation to City Council that they deem appropriate. Willson provided a recommendation that provided an average 5.5% increase in current funding for Housing Resources, YWCA, Catholic Family Services and the Gryphon Place, a 3% decrease for PCC, a 20% decrease for Goodwill Industries, and \$1,500 for Disability Network. Tuley recommended that top ranked applicants should get a higher percentage of their funding requests than lower ranked applicants, similar to the Board recommendation for FY 2008-09. Meulman recommended a similar funding allocation that provided PCC 90% of the requested funding, as the agency is ranked first and is the only human service agency located within the city. With regard to the remaining \$57,960 in funds available, applicants would receive the lesser of their requested funding, or a percentage of their funding request that awards higher ranked applicants a higher percentage of requested funding(i.e. 2nd ranked-22%, 3rd ranked-20%, 4th ranked-18%, 5th ranked-16%, 6th ranked-13% and 7th ranked-11%). Because this scenario left \$4,561 in funding remaining, the Board concurred that Housing Resources should be awarded the full amount of remaining funding because 18% of their funding request would have resulted in a 57% decrease in current

level funding. Healy left the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m. due to illness. After lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Tuley, supported by Maye, to recommend to City Council the following fund allocations from the General Fund: PCC-\$88,540; Catholic Family Services-\$12,751; YWCA-\$11,592; Housing Resources-\$14,994; Gryphon Place-\$6,000; Goodwill Industries-\$6,247; Disability Network-\$6,376. Upon voice vote: Ron Lambe-Abstained, Bill Lenehan-Yes, Elma (Pat) Maye-Yes, Marc Meulman-Yes, Jason Sims-Yes, Mike Thomspon-Yes, Amy Tuley-Yes, Joanne Willson-No. The motion carried 6-1, with 1 abstention

With regard to the PCC Fund Development General Fund application, Willson moved, and Thompson supported a motion to recommend to City council that PCC receive \$28,142 for Fund Development. Upon voice vote: Ron Lambe-Abstained, Bill Lenehan-Yes, Elma (Pat) Maye-Yes, Marc Meulman-Yes, Jason Sims-Yes, Mike Thomspon-Yes, Amy Tuley-Yes, Joanne Willson-Yes. The motion carried 7-0, with 1 abstention.

With regard to the CDBG Fund, Lambe moved and Lenehan supported a motion to recommend to City Council that PCC receive the estimated \$38,000 available from the CDBG Program. Upon voice vote: Ron Lambe-Yes, Bill Lenehan-Yes, Elma (Pat) Maye-Abstained, Marc Meulman-Yes, Jason Sims-Yes, Mike Thomspon-Yes, Amy Tuley-Yes, Joanne Willson-Yes. The motion carried 7-0, with 1 abstention.

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m.