

CITY OF PORTAGE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, February 4, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Durian, Angela Manahan Ilori, Sandra Sheppard, Mike Thompson, Amy Tuley, Joanne Willson, and Logan Wessendorf (Youth Advisory Committee Liaison)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bill Lenehan, Elma (Pat) Maye, Marc Meulman

STAFF PRESENT: Vicki Georgeau, Deputy Director of Neighborhood Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 21, 2010 minutes were approved as submitted, 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Memorandum regarding FY 2010-11 Human/Public Service Funding Recommendation: Staff summarized the communication that includes the City Administration funding recommendation. In response to Willson, staff noted the CDBG entitlement grant is not yet known, and human/public service funding is estimated at \$43,350.
2. FY 2010-11 Human/Public Service Funding Board recommendation: Tuley shared the funding recommendations provided by Meulman and Lenehan, who are not able to attend the meeting. Thompson stated he generally concurs with the City Administration. Willson voiced support for funding the Gryphon Place at a higher level than recommended by staff and other Board members due to the high number of persons served, community outreach, and referrals from 2-1-1 to other agencies. Thompson, Tuley and Ilori noted that since Gryphon Place ranks lowest, they are not comfortable with a lower percentage reduction than other applicants, and that the rankings should be honored. Tuley noted support for Meulman's recommendation that bases funding on the costs to serve Portage residents, as opposed to current funding. Staff noted the calculations may overstate the costs to serve Portage residents. For example, Gryphon Place handles 1,500 Portage calls at a per unit cost of \$11.34, which equals \$17,010 per year, as opposed to the \$80,933 estimate provided by Meulman. Sheppard indicated all agency services are equally important and recommended an equal percentage reduction for all applicants. Alternatively, Sheppard suggested the Board consider who is hurting the most from the current economic crisis, and what services address these problems the best. Tuley recommended funding levels have a more even distribution of the percentage reduction for the applicants as follows: Portage Community Center (PCC)–10%, YWCA-14%; Catholic Family Services-21%; Housing Resources-23%; Gryphon Place-25%. After further discussion, Willson moved, and Durian supported a motion for the following funding levels: PCC-\$78,217 (including \$43,350 from the CDBG Fund); YWCA-\$9,070; Catholic Family Services-\$8,585; Housing Resources-\$18,835; Gryphon Place-\$3,190. After discussion and upon voice vote, the motion failed 1-5. After additional discussion regarding the percentage reductions for each applicant, Willson moved and Thompson supported a motion to recommend the following funding levels to City Council: PCC-\$78,217 (including \$43,350 from the CDBG Fund); YWCA-\$9,070; Catholic Family Services-\$8,775; Housing Resources-\$18,835; Gryphon Place-\$3,000. It was further noted that the percentage reductions from current funding levels are as follows: PCC–10% reduction (including CDBG funding), YWCA-16% reduction; Catholic Family Services-21% reduction; Housing Resources-22% reduction; Gryphon Place-27% reduction. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 6-0.
3. Metro Transit ADA Advisory Committee – Update by Board Member Lenehan: No report provided.
4. Metro Transit Comprehensive Operations Analysis Draft Recommendations – Information Only: Tuley referenced the Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) included in the agenda, and that the Board should review and advise City Council on the proposed bus service changes. Further, due to the full agenda, there was not sufficient time available to receive a presentation on the COA from Bill Schomisch. Instead, a special Board meeting has been scheduled for February 11, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Staff explained the schedule for review and adoption of the COA, and that prior to implementation of any changes, a public hearing would be held. Willson asked if the city could require certain routes based on the funding provided by Portage. Staff explained that bus services are now funded by a Kalamazoo County and City of Kalamazoo millage. Several comments were made about the general information provided regarding route changes. Tuley requested that the Board carefully review the materials and be prepared with additional questions and comments for the meeting next week.

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.