

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

The special meeting of the City of Loveland Human Services Commission was held at the Loveland Municipal Building in the City Council Chambers on
November 7, 2013

PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

Commissioners: Penn Street, Lorna Greene, Amy Olinger, Ally Miller, Rebecca Paulson, April Lewis, Tim Hitchcock, Alex McKenna, Marcy Yoder, Melody Bettenhausen, and Audra Montoya

Staff Liaison: Alison Hade

Guests: John Giroux, Board Member of Alternatives to Violence
Glenda Shayne, Executive Director of ATV

ABSENT FROM THE MEETING:

Commissioners: Stan Taylor

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Street called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Greene motioned to approve the minutes of the October 3rd meeting. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and passed with a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE

John Giroux and Glenda Shayne with Alternatives to Violence addressed the Commission regarding the Safehouse project. They asked for the HSC support when they go to City Council with their request for funding for the Safehouse. Mr. Giroux stated that, Crossroads Safehouse in Fort Collins is the only safehouse close by and they are always at capacity. There is a big need in Loveland for these services. In 2013, ATV has provided 485 nights of shelter in local hotels. Recently an advocate worked with a woman who needed shelter and the best they could do was tell her to park in the Wal-Mart parking lot for the night.

The budget for the Safehouse is \$700,000. It will have 8 bedrooms, which can house up to 20 individuals and office space for ATV staff, which would allow them to sell the office building on 4th Street.

The total cost of the purchase plus renovations is \$694,000. ATV will ask the City Council for \$250,000, they hope to sell the 4th Street property for \$250,000. Mr. Giroux is the broker for both transactions and since he is not receiving a commission there is no conflict of interest.

A concern regarding the location being known was brought up by Commissioner Greene. Mr. Giroux stated that most safehouses have known addresses since perpetrators can find out where they are anyway. The address won't be advertised, but it won't be a secret. The board has met with other safehouse directors regarding security and will have several layers of security in place. In addition, the police station is only two blocks away.

When asked about the relationship with Crossroads Safehouse, Mr. Giroux stated that he was sure they would still be referring people to them. Running the Safehouse will require additional staffing and with the sale of the 4th Street building, ATV has budgeted for two years of operation costs. The

Safehouse will allow for victims to have a six week stay, time to think about the next steps, which could be going into transitional housing.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE

None

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OFFICE UPDATE

The Loveland Homeless Connect event on October 25th allowed for 40 services to be available in one place for one day for homeless and those at risk of homelessness. Staff Liaison Hade stated, it was good for the clients and even better for the community members by providing an understanding of homelessness in Loveland. We are still pulling the numbers together, 200 volunteer t-shirts were ordered and we ran out. Several service providers, such as, Feeding America and Tobacco Free Larimer County said they wished to participate next year. Staff will email the list of service providers to the commissioners via the event map.

Commissioner Greene asked for an update on the Fort Lyon program. Staff informed the Commission that the Murphy Center did get the grant and 137 Connection is working with potential participants, 3-4 individuals that would qualify. Commissioner Greene asked about the availability of Section 8 housing when the participants return to Loveland. Staff informed the Commission that with low rental vacancies right now Section 8 housing is hard to find, but there are a few projects that are in early stages that will provide more units in the future.

CHANGES TO THE GRANT GUIDE

Hard copies of the changes to the grant guide were handed out. The Pre-application was missing the checklist of services due to formatting changes, but staff assured the Commission the checklist would be on the pre-application.

The Model Partnership Pre-application was not discussed previously and staff asked the Commission to review and make changes as necessary. After discussion Commissioner Greene made a motion to move question 4, Please describe the program or project, to the third question and change the question to, Please describe the program or project and how it is a partnership. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bettenhausen and passed with 9 ayes and 1 nay.

The Model Partnership Award Proposal's question number 5 was discussed and Commissioner Hitchcock made a motion to change the word "quantify" to "specify." The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Paulson and passed unanimously.

The Commissioner's discussed the need for agencies to attend the informational grant meetings because of all the changes. They would like staff to provide them with a list of those who attend the Agency Meetings in January.

AMENDING ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Street shared with the Commission that it was discussed in the agenda meeting that officer elections have been held in January, but the Boards and Commissions Handbook states that "Officers shall be elected at the next regular meeting following the month of the year in which the terms of office of the members of the board expire," which would change the officer elections to July or August. Commissioners commented that the timing would fit better with the grant funding cycle. Commissioner Bettenhausen made the motion to change the officer election cycle to the next regular meeting after the month of the year in which the terms expire. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock and passed unanimously.

SITE VISITS

Not all site visits have been done, therefore Commissioner Greene motioned to change the deadline

to submit the Site Visit Report to the CPO by November 30th. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and passed unanimously.

Commissioners shared site visits.

Teaching Tree: Commissioner Bettenhausen stated that CCAP guideline changes are a concern on funding impact.

Touchstone Health Partners' Namaqua Center: Chair Street and Commissioner Montoya visited and reported that THP isn't sure yet where the program will move to, they have several choices including the new Community Life Center (CLC).

House of Neighborly Service's Angel House: Chair Street reported that House of Neighborly Service plans to sell the Angel House and move the program to the CLC. Which raised a question, what would they do with the money from the sale?

Respite Care: Commissioner Hitchcock and Commissioner Olinger visited. Commissioner Hitchcock stated that the director is still concerned about the volunteer question on the grant proposal and wanted some clarification on the number of Loveland volunteers versus number of hours to Loveland clients. It was pointed out that since the question regarding volunteers has changed, it shouldn't be an issue.

CASA Harmony House: Commissioner Green and Commissioner Miller visited and reported that the Harmony House is a warm comfortable home-like atmosphere and having a place to make transfers is a huge comfort to children and parents.

Neighbor to Neighbor: Commissioner Yoder and Vice Chair Paulson visited and reported that N2N's numbers are very impressive. They are more effectively and efficiently serving clients. They have a nice solid foundation to move forward and continue to grow.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Street asked when a decision on the Safehouse would need to be made. Staff informed them that ATV would need a determination by the HSC possibly in December. There are some steps they need to go through before they can go to City Council, such as, the Affordable Housing Commission, Budget review and Staff Environmental Reviews. Vice Chair Paulson was concerned that the Council had not formally requested a recommendation from the HSC. Staff informed the HSC it was a request by Council through the City Manager's Office, it was not in writing. The item will be on the December agenda.

We will have a "Holiday Celebration" at the December meeting, please bring your favorite cookies to share.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Street adjourned the meeting at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Walker