



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E McKinney St.  
Denton, TX 76201  
www.cityofdenton.com

## Meeting Minutes

### Human Services Advisory Committee

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Friday, March 8, 2019

11:00 AM

City Hall  
City Council Work Session Room

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**Members Present:** Pamela Barnes, Gretchen Busl, Stephen Coffey, Hannah Garcia, Rhonda Love, Laura Mauelshagen, Amy Morgan, Roy Onyebetor, Christie Wood, Jane Upshaw

**Members Not Present:** Angela Bennet-Engle

**Staff Present:** Danielle Shaw, Sarah Kuechler

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A Quorum was established. Hannah Garcia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m.

#### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

**A. HSAC19-021** Consider approval of the minutes of the March 1, 2019.

Chair Garcia, asked members to consider approval of the minutes from the March 1, 2019 meeting. Hearing no changes a motion to approve was called.

**Pam Barnes moved that the minutes be approved as corrected.** Rhonda Love asked to make a clarification. Referencing the bottom of page five (5) where she asked for clarification where agencies are not using the highest priced personnel, Love offer as clarification that what she meant to say is sometimes an MD visit is absolutely necessary. The question was "are they using other personnel like physicians assistant when it would be just as appropriate for the problem presented that cost would be less?" Love acknowledge that issues may require an MD but she would like to know if the programs are paying attention. Staff asked if this was a request to edit the minutes or was the clarification sufficient. Love indicated the clarification was sufficient. Love added she is not suggesting they (the program) are doing something wrong she is just asking in the future they tell us (the committee) what they are actually doing and what a medical visit actually means. "Does it have to be a physician or can it be someone else?" Chair Garcia thanked Love for the clarification. Hearing no additional comments, Chair Garcia asked for a second to the motion.

**Jane Upshaw seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**B. HSAC19-023** Consider approval of a recommendation to the City Council regarding the final funding for the FY2019-20 Human Services Grant applications.

Staff member Shaw referred committee members to the screen to the HSAC Recommendations Form that updated with the amounts discussed during the March 1, 2019 HSAC meeting (Exhibit 2). Staff reminded members that the 19-HS-HSAC-Application Review form was also available if the committee wished to reference it during today's discussion.

Chair Garcia, gave the members a moment to review the Exhibit. Member Coffey asked if it was the one in the packet. Staff affirmed. Staff indicated that Members may want to review each of the line items again for members not present at the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to allow for additional comments or requested adjustments to any of the individual line item recommendations to approve or not approved as presented.

Chair Garcia asked if anyone would like to go line by line alphabetically and have a brief discussion about what is being considered. There was consensus of members.

Members reviewed each agency's recommendation in order.

#### Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Chair Garcia stated that CASA request is for \$35,000 and the draft recommendation is for \$31,000 to get the agency close to their requested amount. It was noted that this is an increase over last year. Chair asked for confirmation if this is how they wanted to comment on each before discussion. There was consensus of members to proceed this way.

#### City of Denton - Parks and Recreation

Chair Garcia stated that request from the The City of Denton - Parks and Recreation summer day camp program scholarship is \$64,002 for 59 [sic. 56]. The recommendation is for \$29,000. Garcia stated that was because funding may be available through other means. Member Coffey asked about the Recommendation form break out of CDBG if we already know those funds are there. Staff explained that this is just staff recommending how to allocate the funds based on factors such as previous CDBG awarded funding and program eligibility under the federal guidelines.

#### Communities in Schools

Chair Garcia explained that for Communities in Schools they requested \$32,000 and the committee is recommending \$30,000 to get the agency close to their requested amount. Garcia noted conversation included how members were impressed with the agency's ability to leverage and utilize funds to maximize the impact. Through the application and presentation the agency was able to use the City funding as a talking point with other grant makers. Member Barnes pointed out it is a \$6,000 increase over the previous year. Garcia added that it was due to increased scope and adding an additional school with the ability to reach across schools. Garcia mentioned the agency talked about its strategic vision and plans for expansion.

#### Denton Christian Preschool and Denton City County Day School

For Denton Christian Preschool, Chair Garcia noted their asked was \$35,305 with a committee initial recommendation for \$28,000

Garcia mentioned the Denton City County Day School request was \$53,148 and \$38,000 was the committee recommendation. Garcia explained that she is mentioning them both and making comments about both because the committee talking points and conversations were similar as the committee came up with the initial recommendations. Garcia covered that the discussion was focused on diversification of funding and that the fundraising portfolio be more diversified. Member Barnes added that the committee discussed that their (Denton City County Day School) fundraising remains in their constituents (families) and the committee would like to see them seek support from the community rather than those receiving their services. For the record, staff asked Barnes to clarify if the comment was about Denton City County Day School specifically. Chair Garcia and Barnes affirmed. Garcia added the Denton Christian Preschool does have a bit more community support but overall the City funds have made up a significant portion of salaries and the committee would like to see more diversity. Member Wood commented that Denton City County Day School was cognizant that they needed to improve their fundraising and were working on adding a fundraiser to their board of director. Garcia noted that they did recognize that and the committee is encouraging more of it. Garcia also expressed being impressed by the progress both organizations have made. Garcia added that all three of the early childhood organizations seemed to have a motivation to be certified, accredited, and follow guidelines and standards to produce high quality early childhood education which is commendable.

Member Love asked to clarify from a more recent meeting that when the committee thinks a group needs to pay more attention that the committee let them know that the City runs seminars on these issues form. Staff clarified that the City collaborates with other collations and collaborations to improve quality and programs. Love ask if the committee writes back to let them know that.



Staff added the committee has given direction in previous meetings and that we would provide that guidance. Barnes added this is where the committee discussed ways to bring students in to help provide resources like grant writing offering a win-win for agencies to benefit and students to increase learning opportunities. Member Morgan shared that this was a common theme where agencies may not be utilizing grants due to lack of staff resources to write grants and to administer grants. Garcia explained this was how the committee talked about encouraging partnerships for not just the early childhood organizations but many and partnerships that may be available to them.

Staff Shaw explained that staff received direction that it would work with the committee to provide to future applicants in the application process tools like these. Staff will work with the committee to develop some of those tools and coordinate with other agencies like United Way.

#### Denton County Friends of the Family

Chari Garcia noted the request is for \$35,000 and the initial recommend is to fund them for the full amount because they are the sole provider of this services like this in the County.

#### Denton County MHMR Center

Chair Garcia stated that the Denton County MHMR Center suicide services, the LOSS prevention program, request is \$20,000. The committee's initial recommendation is \$18,000, which is close to full funding, and Member Barnes added it is an increase from last year. Member Upshaw replied that it was her understanding they are the sole provider. Members discussed this.

#### Giving Hope, Inc.

Chair Garcia shared that Giving Hope's request is \$40,000 and the committee's initial recommendation is \$35,000, very close to their full ask. Garcia stated she was impressed with the agency's support of prevention through case management. Member Barnes mentioned the committee notes improvement in areas like reporting, infrastructure and financial stewardship with is commended. Garcia added that the agency did a good job in the presentation demonstrating improvements in executing services. .

#### Health Services of North Texas request is

Member Barnes stated a conflict and abstained from the funding discussion. Chair Garcia, shared that the Health Services of North Texas ask amount was for \$60,000 with \$47,000 being the committee's initial recommendation.

#### Interfaith

Chair Garcia explained that Interfaith's request was for \$16,000 and the initial recommendation is \$7,000. Garcia noted it is level funding from the prior year. Garcia asked for any additional comments. Members discussed the agency services. Member Upshaw shared the committee agrees the services is needed but the agency's long term planning and their case management was not in place to provide enough services to help people maintain long-term adding that it seemed very short-term. Garcia interjected versus other organizations. Garcia and Upshaw continued briefly discussing. Member Barnes remarked that it seems we have two organization that maybe could collaborate to share resources and infrastructure with case management that might be able to provide a more comprehensive service rather than the emergency on one side and the structure long-term assistance on the other. To collaborate might be a better benefit to those who need the services.

#### Monsignor King Outreach Center and Our Daily Bread

Chair Garcia stated the ask was for \$65,500 which is significantly larger than previous years but the committee noted they are being asked to stay open longer and are almost completely volunteer run. While the percentage is almost double from prior year it is with good reason. Garcia explained the initial recommendation came in at \$50,000. Member Barnes highlighted that the committee like the collaborations especially with the next agency Our Daily Bread and the need for the homeless shelter in the community is growing. Member Upshaw added that it does so much on so little budget. Garcia mentioned that a portion of the funding is for a shared line item with Our Daily Bread, restating the committee commending the partnership. Noting it is a smart way to share a position based on the overlap of clients served. Upshaw added that it can follow the client.

Garcia further explained that the \$50,000 is recommended where the Our Daily Bread ask was \$30,000 and the committee funding \$25,000 of that. Barnes expressed that this is an increase hoping to support the case manager as a really good process for both organizations.



#### PediPlace

Chair Garcia described that PediPlace requested \$10,000 while the committee recommendation was \$7,500. It is an increase in alignment with the agency demonstrating an increased need for their services. Garcia stated the committee was impressed by their ability to serve and the need for City of Denton residents. Member Upshaw remarked that they had a good fundraising plan. Garcia added that they are seeking to expand their board to include a Denton resident and she put out a call to anyone listening interested in serving to let them (PediPlace) know.

#### RSVP: Serving Denton County

Chair Garcia stated their application was asking for \$12,000 and the committee recommendation was for \$5,000 of that.

#### Special Programs for Aging Needs

Chair Garcia described for Special Programs for Aging Needs, commonly referred to as "Meals on Wheels", the committee recommendation is to fully fund their \$25,000 ask.

#### Salvation Army of Denton

Chair Garcia said for the Salvation Army of Denton they look to fund \$25,000 of their \$35,000 ask, which is a slight increase over the prior year funding.

#### Fred Moore Nursery School, Inc.

Chair Garcia stated that their request was for \$90,000 and the committee's recommendation is to fund \$35,000 of that.

Shaw noted for clarification that this agency is presented out of order as a result of the application being received late, in case anyone was questioning why it is at the end. Garcia voiced some committee concerns with reporting in a timely manner and their ability to report as needed. Member Upshaw noted the leadership change. Member Barnes acknowledged that the committee did set a standard last year of reducing funding by \$5,000 for a late applicant last year so having set a standard the committee wanted to be consistent with the treatment of those late applications.

#### HMIS set-aside

Chair Garcia introduced the final request item and asked staff to provide explanation. Shaw highlighted that HMIS has been funded by the HSAC for a number of years through an agency so it was decided to move that to another entity. The particular funding helps support agencies reporting in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Because of the system-wide approach to addressing the issue of people experiencing homelessness and assisting them with housing, we can get our agencies collaborating and sharing data. The more we do so better it helps us understand the scale and the scope of the issue as well as helping with the continuum of services as the committee has mentioned in other conversations. Shaw added that it is to make sure everyone has access to those who are in need to see how they are being served and what they continue to need as well as provide vital reporting that helps us seek grants and other support. Staff is recommending the HSAC continue to fund as it takes that off the agencies and it is required for agencies funded by the City. It also helps incentivize those to report into our shared database. Shaw continued that it has resulted in positive improvements to our system including the Data Dashboard that is available to the public so that on any given month you can go on and see what is happening in the community related to folks experiencing homelessness, their housing need. It has helped us with our Housing Priority List where in regular case conferencing meetings when housing comes available, we can go in identify people by name, locate them, and house them as quickly as possible. It has been a benefit to the entire Housing Crisis response System, therefore it is recommended to be funded.

Garcia highlighted that the funding is for licenses that the City mandates they (City funded homeless services agencies) use, so it is paying for it without making agencies take funding away from other services. Member Barnes asked that it has added an agency to HMIS. Shaw explained that it has meant success in adding a number of new agency highlighting Our Daily Bread as a great example of an organization that is not mandated to use HMIS but it helped encourage them to be on HMIS and now they are a pretty integral part of the Coordinated Entry Intake getting people on the Housing Priority List and on their way to housing. Garcia stated that the recommendation is to fund it at the full request amount.

25:16.

Kuechler discussed the final meeting is being recorded in order to increase the transparency of the recommendation process. Shaw added that the recommendations are tentatively scheduled to be made to City Council on May 7, 2019. Chair Garcia pointed out that now the committee can have this week to consider the draft recommendations before convening next week to finalize with the opportunity for members not present today to add to the final recommendations.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Danielle Shaw, Staff Liaison to the HSAC

Minutes Approved: Hannah M. Garcia