



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Thursday, May 24, 2013
Council Conference Room
Palo Alto Civic Center
250 Hamilton Avenue
8:30am

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chen, Ezran, Morin, O’Nan Savage,

Absent: Bacchetti

Staff: Minka van der Zwaag, Amy Johnson

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS:

None

BUSINESS

1. Recommendation of funding allocation for proposed increase in Human Services Resource Allocation Process (HSRAP) funding for FY 2014

Commissioner Bacchetti recused himself because of his working relationships with some of the agencies.

Chair O’Nan provided history to the current funding cycle. Two new agencies were recommended for funding: “Dreamcatchers” and “Palo Alto Housing Corporation”. Inn Vision Shelter Network was given a small increase. All other agencies were cut in order to make the new funding available. The Finance Committee recently recommended an increase of \$55,323 to HSRAP and tasked the HRC with providing a recommendation on how to allocate it. The subcommittee met and proposed an additional increase for Dreamcatchers and Palo Alto Housing Corporation and a new allocation for Vista Center for the Blind and Visually impaired. They also recommended a 1% increase to Avenidas and Palo Alto

43 Community Child Care (PACCC), while all other agencies would receive 7% increase.

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45 Ms. Jo Jans, from Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired spoke about their services.

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47 Mr. Jim Santucci from KARA, thanked the HRC and spoke about how their services are often
48 misunderstood and requested funding for their program.

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50 Ms. Jo Bailard from Abilities United appreciated all the thought that went into making the
51 recommendation and thanked the HRC.

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53 Ms. Maureen Breen from Avenidas thanked the HRC for past funding and spoke about their services.

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55 Ms. Mila Zelkha from InnVision Shelter Network thanked the HRC for past support and spoke of their
56 services.

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58 Ms. Kate Young from Palo Alto Housing Corporation thanked HRC for the additional funding
59 recommendation.

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61 Ms. van der Zwaag spoke of the support from the Finance Committee. They decided on an amount of
62 funding that would be sustainable and wished it could be more. They clearly recognized that this does
63 not restore the funding to what it was before cuts began to occur in previous years. She thanked Chair
64 O’Nan, Commissioners Ezran and Morin for participating on the subcommittee.

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66 There was a discussion on why KARA was not recommended for funding. Based on the proposal, there
67 was concern about the fee structure because it did not match those of other agencies providing services
68 to low and very low income families. Mr. Santucci explained that clinical therapy is the only fee based
69 program and anyone else who walks in receives free services and or designed for low income residents.

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71 **Commissioner Ezran made motion to approve the funding as recommended. Seconded by**
72 **Commissioner Savage. Ayes: Unanimous. (Commissioner Bacchetti absent).**

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74 **2. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS:**

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76 **A. Commissioner Reports:**

77 Chair O’Nan said she received nice feedback regarding the Countywide HRC Breakfast meeting and
78 was glad to see the collaboration with the Santa Clara County HRC.

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80 Commissioner Morin commented that she was also very pleased with the breakfast and found it very
81 motivating.

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83 **B. Council Buddy Reports:**

84 None

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86 **C. Council Liaison Report:**

87 None

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89 **D. Staff Liaison Report:**

90 Ms. van der Zwaag reported that there are four candidates to interview for the open HRC vacancies
91 which will be scheduled in early June.

92 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

93 None

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96 **CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

97 Learning Series Housing Part 3 Presentation by Palo Alto Housing Corporation

98 Follow up items from Countywide HRC Breakfast

99 Update on Buena Vista Mobile Home Park

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102 **ADJOURNMENT**

103 The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.