

WEST DES MOINES HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

139 6th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265

February 20, 2018

Members Present: Mary Bernabe, Jo Helling, Matt McNeece, Wendy Ogden, Rick Riley, Jered Rogers, Bill Solawetz, Kasey Tickel, Dan Werner, Sue Wright

Members Absent: Janet Clary-Jones, Jessinda Madonia, Jim Miller, Bob Shoemaker, Lori Teel

Staff Present: Althea Holcomb

Citizen Participation: None

Call to Order: Chair Mary Bernabe called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: No minutes were available.

Director's Report:

- In response to questions about the increase in number served in housing, a discussion ensued concerning the challenges of the HUD mandated Rapid Rehousing program.
- City Budget Meeting
 - Dan Werner expressed a sense that the City Council lacks awareness of the extensive community support (eg., business and church) for West Des Moines Human Services. Discussion centered on ways to increase Council awareness of the connections that WDM HS has in the community.
 - The request in the FY19 budget for a new software program (NIFCAP) and building attendant were mistakenly allocated to Human Service's discretionary account. This has been resolved and the City will pick up these new expenses. The standing mode of operation has been that the City pays employment and overhead costs. Human Services is responsible for paying direct program expenses through the discretionary account which is funded through donations.
- Althea thanked Matt McNeece and Lutheran Church of Hope for the huge donation of "Super Bowl" personal care items.
- WDM Human Services is partnering with the Journey Church Journeyman program. The program participants go into the community to repair homes for those who cannot do so for themselves. Human Services will be putting together a list of those in need of help.
- Althea reported that she has met with Dan Pugh, the new director of the Valley Community Center with which WDM Human Services partners on many tasks.
- Building Project
 - We did not receive any money from Des Moines Golf and County Solheim funds.
 - Althea has talked with Angela Connolly. She will be applying for a Polk County grant. Applications are due in April and money is available in May.
 - Two grant applications have been submitted to Prairie Meadows.
 - Althea reported that the original bid for the project from Graham Construction was \$81,000. After they analyzed their bid, they reduced it to \$58,000.
- Spring Fundraiser
 - The Fundraiser will be May 10 at The Hall at The Foundry.
 - Althea is exploring possibility of a profit share arrangement with The Hall (rather than asking for donations).
 - Some discussion ensued concerning how to message the event – e.g., for what are we raising money?

- May use Laser 104 radio station to advertise and to be at the event.

Chair Report: The chair indicated that she had no report.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.