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MINUTES

Social Services Advisory Board

September 5, 2012 7:00 P.M.

City Commission Room
1101 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

New Member Orientation was provided for John Ford at 6:30 p.m.
Robin Hays and Katie Brayton were not in attendance.

Members Present: Sara Fisher, Debbie Madsen, Stacy Cam, Mel Pooler, Lindsay Randall, Sarah Blair, Valerie Evans, John Ford

Members Absent (Excused): Larry Brockson, Andrew Rickel

Members Absent (Unexcused): Robert Smith, Robin Hays, Katie Brayton, Katha Hurt, Ted Hartke

Staff Present: Pamela Jager

1. Introduce new members

John Ford was welcomed to the committee by everyone introducing themselves.

2. Public Comments

Commissioner Wynn Butler introduced himself to the board and expressed his concerns of an apparent disconnect between the advisory boards and the commission. He stated the lawsuit brought light to social services and he recognized the need to address social services in our community.

Commissioner Butler discussed the new utility donation program with the board and shared his thoughts on a promotional campaign to better inform the community of donation options. He has also contacted the social service agencies to ask them to provide donation information on their websites. Several members made comments and suggestions about the program.

Discussion was also held in regards to what the role of SSAB was in promoting of the recent fund raising efforts. Commissioner Butler agreed that it wasn't currently part of the board's charter and stated that he would like to see a revision of the current resolution to SSAB, which

would also include prioritization of the agency requests. The board felt that community needs or priorities often shifted amongst agencies, and that all agencies played an important role in the community. The board felt it was difficult to create a priority list because it would be highly dependent upon individual subjectivity. Commissioner agreed that it may be difficult to pinpoint exact agencies that should be eligible for funding, but continued to support his beliefs in a prioritization system. He also shared his funding allocation opinion, which included creating a ½ mill cap that would be allocated to social service agencies, and then allowing the application of any donations raised to be allocated in addition to that proposed ½ mill levy cap.

Commissioner Butler informed the board there would be an upcoming work session regarding some of the advisory boards and committees for the city, including the Social Services Advisory Board. He said it is important that the boards are functioning efficiently and effectively for the City, and also stated that he would be willing to serve as the unofficial “liaison” between the SSAB and Commission.

3. Additions to agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Announcements

There were not any board announcements from the chair or the members.

5. Approval of draft minutes for June 6, 2012

Debbie made motion to approve the minutes as filed. One error was realized in the announcements section and Pam stated that would be changed. The motion was seconded and approved 8-0.

6. Allocation of \$18,680 reduction to 2013 Agencies

At the 4th Budget Work Session on July 10, 2012, the Commission provided direction to reduce the outside agency budget of the City by 5%. The total reduction for SSAB was \$18,680. The board held discussion in regards to the current services of the agencies, and a motion was made to reduce all agency allocations by 5%. The motion was not seconded as several members felt comfortable cutting the entire amount of funds allocated to UFM for the scholarship program. A second motion was made to disband funding for UFM and reallocate the remaining amount of the reduction to be split on a percentage basis for all of the other agencies. The motion passed 8-0, although it was noted that the members of the SSAB did not agree with reducing the allocations by 5%. In order to accommodate the quarterly auto-payment process through Accounts Payable, all of the revised allocations were rounded to the nearest dollar.

7. Review of calendar and list of agencies for fall site visits

Sarah requested that each member let her know which agencies they would like to visit for the fall site visits. The board discussed a process for choosing agencies, and it was decided that if

anyone had a preference, they were to e-mail the Finance Intern, Amanda Heim of their preferences. A site visit list could then be created and distributed via email prior to the October meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by Pamela Jager