



MEETING MINUTES
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 22, 2022 7:00 PM

Social Services Committee

Members Present: S. Olds Frey, D. Ohanian, A. Sood, A. Ngola, S. Lackey, K. Hayes, Councilmember Reid

Members Absent: Councilmember Burns

Staff: S. Flax, J. Wingader, A. Elizarraga

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chair Olds Frey called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Suspension of the Rules

Vice Chair Ohanian moved approval to suspend rules to allow for participation electronically or by phone, seconded by Ms. Sood; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 11, 2022

Vice Chair Ohanian moved approval of the meeting minutes for August 11, 2022, seconded by Ms. Ngola; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment

Stephanie Mendoza, Rebeca Mendoza, Rocio Mancera, Sonia Robles, and Sergio Hernandez spoke in support of funding the Welcoming Center.

Discussion and Vote to Approve ARPA Funding for a Welcoming Center

Mariana Osoria, SVP of Partnerships & Engagement for Family Focus provided additional information about services the welcoming center will provide and how services would be measured; she also addressed questions from members. Dottie Johnson, CFO for Family Focus, provided additional information about the budget. Members expressed general support for the services Family Focus provides currently in the community. After discussion, Councilmember Reid moved to approve \$500,000 in ARPA funding for the Welcome Center at Family Focus, seconded by Vice Chair Ohanian; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

Discussion and Approval of Child Care Premium Pay Program Award Structure

Staff provided a brief summary of recommended restrictions including awards for staff who work full-time, part-time and less than 15 hours per week; staff who spend at least 35% or more of time in direct contact with children and families or who work on site, and an income cap of \$60,000. Ms. Hayes moved to open the discussion of an award

structure, seconded by Ms. Ngola. Members agreed to award staff working full time, part time, and less than 15 hours per week. There was discussion about income caps and award levels.

Vice Chair Ohanian recommended the following award amounts: \$1,550 for full time staff, \$800 for part time staff, and \$400 for staff working less than 15 hours per week. While the total recommendation exceeded the \$500,000 allocated budget for the program, staff confirmed that some full time providers would be ineligible due to the salary cap. The Committee further decided that staff could maximize awards using any remaining funds, provided the increase to full time staff would be halved for part time staff and quartered for staff working less than 15 hours per week. Vice Chair Ohanian moved approval of the award levels to full time, part time, and staff working less than 15 hours per week making \$60,000 or less, seconded by Ms. Ngola; a roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved 5-0.

Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair

Members reviewed the nomination process with staff. Chair Olds Frey and Vice Chair Ohanian accepted nominations from members and both agreed to serve for a second term.

Staff Report

Staff provided an update about public services applications; the Mental Health application will close October 17 and the applications for Case Management and Safety Net services will close at the end of October. Staff suggested canceling the October meeting due to a lack of agenda items requiring action by the Committee; members agreed. Staff also presented an outline of agenda items for the November and December meetings.

Public Comment

Staff presented a written comment from Alejandra Ibañez submitted in support of the Welcome Center.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wingader
Senior Grants and Compliance Specialist