



MEETING MINUTES
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Social Services Committee

Members Present: S. Olds Frey, A. Ngola, K. Hayes, R. Philips, Councilmember Burns

Members Absent: Councilmember Reid, K. Rolling, S. Lackey

Staff Present: M. Johnson, J. Wingader (remote)

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chair Olds Frey called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2024

Councilmember Burns moved approval of the meeting minutes for February 8, 2024, seconded by Ms. Hayes; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment

No public comment.

FY 2025/26 Funding Discussion

Based on prior committee discussions, Staff provided an overview of federally and locally funded housing support and workforce development programs; there were questions about eligibility requirements and rent thresholds. Staff also provided information about needs assessments from local hospitals and a review of SSC's stated purpose and ordinance. Members reviewed input provided at the last meeting; Staff concluded by recommending an extension of the current grant cycle. Ms. Hayes asked about potential impacts to the wraparound services implementation and the report cycle for currently-funded programs; staff confirmed that discussions of ways to implement a wraparound model were happening between stakeholders and that there were no updates at this time. Staff also confirmed that the current report structure would be extended which would give SSC time to review report requirements. Ms. Olds-Frey confirmed that wraparound was the coordination of services, not provision of services; she pointed out that coordination and capacity are critical. Staff also pointed out that several initiatives could provide more information about community needs later in the year, and results could potentially inform future funding decisions.

Ms. Phillips noted the importance of workforce development initiatives and the importance of specific, defined outcome measures; members talked about ways to identify specific outcomes. There was discussion about the need for shelter services; members expressed interest in understanding services that support unhoused residents. Staff noted that using funds to "reserve" shelter beds was not an option under the Coordinated Entry model that most service providers are required to adhere to. There was discussion about the coordinated entry process; members expressed interest in a more comprehensive understanding of that process.

There was discussion about additional community needs and ways of allocating funds. Ms. Ngola talked about establishing key priorities and suggested further discussion at another meeting. Councilmember Burns reiterated the importance of defining clear evaluation criteria. There was discussion about the renewal process versus opening a new application process and the timelines involved. Staff confirmed that it was important to establish priorities and to establish clear program measurements. There was general Committee support for a renewal year for FY2025 and for the Committee to focus on reviewing program evaluations to prepare for an application cycle for FY2026. Councilmember Burns discussed the importance of evaluating both program impact and alignment with City goals; he noted that this would give the Committee the structure and ability to pivot funding to support programs that have documented outcomes and align with goals.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wingader
Senior Grants and Compliance Specialist