

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, August 24, 2015
5:45 p.m.

Conference Room 303 - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

PRESENT: Mayor Winstead, Deputy Mayor Eggen, Councilmembers McGlashan, Hall, McConnell, Salomon, and Roberts

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Debbie Tarry, City Manager; John Norris, Assistant City Manager; Rob Beem, Community Services Manager; and Bonita Roznos, Deputy City Clerk

GUESTS: Beratta Gomillion, Executive Director, Center for Human Services; Kevin Osborne, Hopelink Shoreline Center Manager; Judy Faast, Hopelink Director of Education and Employment; and Bob Lohmeyer, Director, Shoreline/LFP Senior Center

At 5:50 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor Winstead.

Mayor Winstead thanked the City's quality of life partners for providing needed services to Shoreline residents.

Bob Lohmeyer, Director, Shoreline/LFP Senior Center, presented the Center's demographics, services, budget, and trends. He said the Center serves 3,300 to 3,370 seniors annually; 50% are Shoreline residents; 77% are female; 60-74 is the average age range; and they are in the low to very low income range. He reviewed services that are available at the Center and pointed out that class offerings have changed from socialization and recreation to health and wellness. He shared that revenue is received from contributions, dues, and fees; special events; sales and goods; and local government and senior services. He also stated the Center contributes 63% to the budget and the City of Shoreline contributes 37%. He said the budget has been stable for the last three years and, in some cases, yielded a surplus. He explained that United Way is reducing support to the Center, and as a result, he is anticipating a \$25,000 budget shortfall.

Councilmembers asked why United Way is reducing funding. Mr. Lohmeyer explained that the majority of support United Way receives comes from the technology industry and that they are directing priorities elsewhere.

Beratta Gomillion, Executive Director, Center for Human Services, shared that they provide behavioral health and family support services to low to very low income clients. She said 60% of their clients are age 21 and younger and 69% are non-Caucasian. She provided a description of their Intake Therapy Program, Substance Abuse Program, Early Learning Services, Youth Services, and the Wrap-Around Program. She shared that academic and intervention strategies

used at Ballinger Homes are resulting in a high rate of high school graduates. She said high staff turnover, loss of funding, inadvertent consequences of the Affordable Care Act, and the \$100,000-200,000 budget deficit are challenges the Center is facing. She communicated her goal to integrate behavioral health with education and employment programming to equip clients with tools they need to get a job.

Councilmembers asked how the Center remains open given the large deficit. Ms. Gomillion responded that they are currently using reserve funding.

Kevin Osborne, Hopelink Shoreline Center Manager, introduced Judy Faast, Hopelink Director of Education and Employment. He shared that current services provided by Hopelink include family development, housing, emergency food, emergency financial assistance and adult education. He noted that 90% of their clients are from Shoreline. He said their service of providing emergency food bags has seen the largest increase in service this year.

Councilmembers asked what accounted for the large increase in emergency food bags. Mr. Osborne explained that they are receiving clients from Tent City and that more homeless people are coming to Shoreline. He said food bank numbers have increased and he shared that there is a need to provide lunch for children. He said emergency financial assistance is down 23% and explained that it is due to the increase in the cost of utilities. He said that housing support is down 50% and explained paying for storage units and prescriptions have increased. He said the biggest challenge for Human Services is providing affordable housing to low income residents. He shared Hopelink's goal of bringing one stop shopping to Shoreline Hopelink so that all needed services can be provided to clients in one place.

Ms. Faast talked about the employment program and providing one to one job coaching to clients. She explained the change of focus in the Adult Education Program from basic language skills to English for work skills. She said the GED preparation course was discontinued due to stringent new requirements, and that she anticipates an expansion in the Case Management Program and financial coaching.

Councilmembers asked about affordable housing development preferences, utility bill reductions, and how the City Council can help secure funding for Human Services. Mr. Osborn responded that advocating for Human Services with other agencies would be helpful, and said although they serve Lake Forest Park residents, they do not received funding from the City of Lake Forest Park. Ms. Gomillion said advocating for Human Services with other city agencies and King and Snohomish Counties would be helpful, and continued support of places like Mary's place that provides showers and beds for the homeless. The quality of life partners agreed that there is an immediate need for any type of affordable housing in the area.

Councilmembers suggested meeting again to continue the discussion.

At 6:51 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Bonita Roznos, Deputy City Clerk