

**CITY OF SHORELINE**  
**SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL**  
**SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Monday, August 14, 2017  
5:45 p.m.

Conference Room 222 - Shoreline City Hall  
17500 Midvale Avenue North

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

ABSENT: None

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

GUESTS: Hopelink Representatives Tamarah Lee, Shoreline Center Manager and Ellen Greene, Associate Director for Financial and Emergency Assistance; and Beratta Gomillion, Executive Director, Center for Human Services

At 5:47 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor Roberts.

Tamarah Lee, Hopelink Shoreline Center Manager, said she has been in her position for two months. She provided a brief introduction of her background and noted that she has been in the Shoreline Community for twenty years. She thanked Councilmembers for their ongoing support of Hopelink, and identified programs the City's contributions help support. She shared that Hopelink opened in their new location, at Ronald Commons, on February 7, 2017, and that they offer a holistic approach to serving clients. She said they served approximately 2,700 Shoreline residents and 300 Lake Forest Park residents last year.

Deputy Mayor Winstead asked if Compass Housing is exclusively for veterans and if it offers temporary housing only. Ms. Greene responded that of the 60 units available, 12 units are reserved for veterans, 12 units for people moving out of homelessness, 6 units for the disabled, the remaining units for people earning 50% of King Area Median Income, and said housing is permanent.

Ms. Lee shared 1,566 people participated in the food program, an increase of 27% from last year. Mayor Roberts asked what caused the increase in clients. Ms. Lee responded that they are seeing an increase in homeless clients, the new location is more visible and easier to get to, and they are in close proximity to other service providers. Mr. Norris asked if they are seeing an increase in clients from Mary's Place Shelter. Ms. Lee responded that information is not tracked.

Ms. Lee reported that Hopelink's Heating Program participants increased by 10% and said she is anticipating it to be higher next year. She said they are looking for ways to help Shoreline's immigrant and refugee populations. She talked about the great community support they are

receiving and expressed gratitude to the Shoreline Fire and Police Departments for their quick and respectful response to their clients.

Ms. Greene said challenges they are facing include the lack of affordable and low income housing in the area, a need for safe overnight parking, immediate emergency shelters, and more east to west transit connections. She invited the City Council to participate in National Welcome Week in September supporting immigrants and refugees. Deputy Mayor Winstead recommended that she reach out to the International Community Health Services. Mr. Norris shared that the City Council adopted Resolution No. 401 in January 2017, declaring Shoreline to be an inviting, equitable, and safe community for all.

Councilmember McGlashan inquired about neighborhood relationships. Ms. Lee responded that they are reaching out to their neighbors and have not had any complaints since the building was completed. Mayor Roberts recommended that they reach out to the Richmond Highlands Neighborhood Association.

Beratta Gomillion, Executive Director, Center Human Services, shared the Center is experiencing a time of growth and uncertainty, and talked about the difficulty of conducting business in King County. She said they recently acquired a new business in Everett, and are looking for a Lynnwood location and a space to lease in Shoreline. She said they served 742 Shoreline residents, provided 22,496 staff hours, and anticipate hiring 35 new staff members by year's end. Councilmembers asked why it is more difficult to conduct business in King County, and what can be done differently. Ms. Gomillion explained that it costs more to conduct business in an urban environment, that King County does not pay for the actual cost of services, and noted the increasing Behavioral Services licensure fees is problematic. She shared they are preparing for a contracting services change and that no funds are being provided to support the transition.

Ms. Gomillion shared the Center provides same day services, and said all services are supported by evidence-based practices. She said behavioral/mental health services are now being tied to physical health outcomes. Councilmember Salomon asked why the change. Ms. Gomillion replied that behavioral health is often tied to physical health issues which are better tracked.

Ms. Gomillion described the increasing diversity of clients and staff, and said the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act and immigrant regulations are the biggest challenges. She shared behavioral services trends include teen suicides, anxiety, and depression, the opiate epidemic, and an increase in child protective services referrals. She talked about the impact of the loss of United Way funding, and said two programs in Shoreline will have to be cut. Mr. Norris shared that the Shoreline Teen Program has engaged in teen suicide discussions to help address this issue.

Deputy Mayor Winstead asked what specifically the Center does to help people and about the computer tablets the City donated to the Ballinger Homes Afterschool Program. Ms. Gomillion responded that the Center provides individualized holistic treatment, including therapy, case management, housing, food, and provided an example of the clients they serve. She said the tablets are invaluable in assisting the students. Mayor Roberts asked where their referrals come from. Ms. Gomillion responded by word of mouth, dentists, doctors, and religious institutions,

and said referrals rarely come from the schools. Councilmember Scully asked if the Center could accommodate more referrals. Ms. Gomillion responded yes they could and would just add more staff to meet the need.

A discussion ensued about the opiate epidemic, and Mayor Roberts asked how Shoreline is affected by it, and what the City can do to further support the Center. Ms. Gomillion responded that opiate abuse is higher in Snohomish County than King County, followed by downtown Seattle, then the South, North, and East regions. She said the City can continue to lobby with King County Councilmember Rod Dembowski and for Best Start for Kids grant funding, and educate people that recovery is possible to help remove the stigma that impedes people seeking the help they need.

Councilmembers thanked Ms. Gomillion for the report and the valuable services the Center provides to Shoreline residents.

At 6:47 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

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Bonita Roznos, Deputy City Clerk