

The Human Services Commission approved these minutes as amended on July 8, 2010

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

June 15, 2010
6:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
City Council Conference Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Huenefeld Gese, Commissioners Beighle, Bruels, Hoople, Plaskon, Stout, Yantis

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Leslie, Alex O'Reilly, Joseph Adriano, Megan Farwell, Department of Parks and Community Services

GUEST SPEAKERS: Councilmember Chelminiak

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Huenefeld Gese who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Beighle, who arrived at 6:10 p.m., and Commissioner Yantis, who arrived at 6:14 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 11, 2010

Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Plaskon. Second was by Commissioner Hoople and the motion carried unanimously.

B. May 18, 2010

Commissioner Stout called attention to the fifth paragraph on page 2 and pointed out that Carol Maurer is manager of the Children and Family Commission, not Healthy Start. She also referred to the second paragraph on page 5 and suggested that the last sentence should be revised to read "...the one person running the program would have to comply...."

Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Hoople. Second was by Commissioner Stout and the motion carried unanimously.

C. May 25, 2010

Commissioner Beighle pointed out that in the first sentence of the first paragraph on page 11, the word "funding" should read "fundraising."

Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Hoople. Second was by Commissioner Stout and the motion carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Erica Horn, Executive Director of HERO House, thanked the Commission for its ongoing support. She said efforts are under way to stabilize programs and services. A supportive employment contract has been secured through King County; that will mean funding of about \$121,000 for a twelve-month period. The funding will facilitate the hiring of an employment specialist staff that will be fully dedicated to employment issues alone. Therapeutic Health Services has been a saving grace for the last six months by serving as a mentor/sponsor; that contract is coming to an end, though the two agencies will continue to work closely together. HERO House is continuing to work with Youth In Action to determine how to provide youth services such as after-school programming for young folks between the ages of 16 and 25 with mental health issues. She provided the Commissioners with copies of the latest newsletter and the annual report and encouraged them to drop by HERO House.

Mr. Jess Levine said he did not know where he would be if it were not for HERO House. He thanked the Commission for its support.

5. STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Bruels said he attended the Alliance of Eastside Agencies awards luncheon. The awards handed out were for volunteer of the year, agency or program of the year, outstanding business, a legacy award, an elected official award, and a youth award.

Human Services Manager Emily Leslie noted that earlier in the day she and several others attended the King County Alliance for Human Services meeting where the focus was on the potential for having the ballot measure back on the table. She commented that even if the tax increase is approved by the voters, public safety will benefit more than human services. The group highlighted the need for a long-term funding solution for human services.

Grant Coordinator Joseph Adriano introduced new intern Megan Farwell. Ms. Farwell said she is a dual degree master's candidate at the University of Washington in public

administration and social work.

Ms. Leslie announced that King County Executive Dow Constantine will be visiting Bellevue on Monday, June 21. He will be taking a tour of different projects and will be updated with regard to various projects in the city.

Human Services Planner Alex O'Reilly commented that over the past five months the Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition has been conducting a series of conversations addressing the impacts of the recession and lack of access to services for refugees and immigrants. She said the most recent conversation took place earlier in the day. One issue that was raised was the cultural competence of non-profit agencies in the community. The topic will be raised with the Eastside Human Services Forum workgroup at its July meeting.

Answering a question asked by Commissioner Stout, Ms. O'Reilly allowed that cultural competency within agencies affects staff-to-staff interactions. The discussion raised several ideas for how to address the issue, including addressing the issue at the executive director level of agencies. In some cases, agency leadership may not be fully aware of the issues.

6. DISCUSSION

A. Full Review of Human Service Applications Under Goal Areas 3, 4 and 5

Chair Huenefeld Gese provided a short review of the work done by the Commission to date in reviewing the applications.

Mr. Adriano said it will be necessary to have the preliminary recommendations finalized by the second meeting in July so the list can be released prior to the public hearing. Ms. Leslie added that it is not unusual for the proposed allocations to exceed the available funds during the first round. There are two meetings on the schedule that can be used for the reconciliation process.

53. Center for Children and Youth Justice – Safe Havens Visitation Center

Commissioner Beighle praised the agency for its diverse funding base but was concerned about the fact that the agency does not ask clients if they live in incorporated or unincorporated areas of the county. Ms. Leslie said when asked the agency was able to provide only limited demographic information.

Commissioner Bruels said he liked the program but was unsure if the Commission could come up with the requested funding.

Commissioner Stout commented that the program is desperately needed, but agreed with Commissioner Bruels about the ability of the city to pay for it. The program will be essential to support bonding within families during times of major crisis.

Commissioner Yantis suggested the Commission should determine whether or not the various programs are worth funding regardless of whether or not there is sufficient money to do so. The time to make the tough choices will be during the reconciliation round. He proposed that the program is worth considering.

It was agreed preliminarily not to fund the application but to hold open the possibility of funding it should additional money be identified.

54. Children's Response Center Harborview – Children's Response Center Harborview Medical Center

Commissioner Stout noted that the program has been funded by the city for a long time. She said it is a critical program and definitely worth continued funding.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

55. Consejo Counseling and Referral Service – Consejo Domestic Violence Program

Commissioner Beighle commented that while the service is invaluable, it is not necessarily cost effective.

Commissioner Bruels pointed out that the funding being requested from Bellevue makes up more than 18 percent of the total program budget, yet Bellevue residents make up only seven percent of the total clients.

Ms. Leslie said when asked to respond to that point, the agency indicated that the costs in Bellevue are higher because the agency has an office in Bellevue to better serve clients.

Commissioner Yantis commented that as proposed Bellevue would fully fund every Bellevue client served by the program, whereas with most other programs the city funds only a portion of the Bellevue clients served.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application at a flat level and with no increase.

56. Crisis Clinic – Teen Link

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the agency is seeking a 20 percent increase in funding for the program.

Commissioner Bruels allowed that while a 20 percent increase appears high, the actual dollar amount is not that significant.

Commissioner Beighle noted that the program has a strong partnership with the school district.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

57. Eastside Domestic Violence Program – The Community Advocacy Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application was seeking a five percent increase.

Commissioner Stout said she is passionate about the organization, but suggested that with the available money the allocation should include no more than a cost of living adjustment.

Commissioner Bruels concurred. He allowed that while the percentage increase is small, the dollar amount is significant.

It was agreed that the program is essential.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment.

58. King County Sexual Assault Resource Center – Comprehensive Sexual Assault Services

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the application sought only a four percent increase.

Commissioner Bruels commented that the program is vital in the community.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment.

59. Refugee Women's Alliance – ReWA Domestic Violence Program Advocacy Services

Chair Huenefeld Gese stated that the new program provides domestic violence advocacy services.

Commissioner Beighle said she was bothered by the fact that there are no fundraising activities planned for the program, and by the fact that the request is for more dollars necessary for the number of Bellevue clients served.

Commissioner Stout said it appeared from the application that Bellevue is being charged twice per client what the other cities are being asked for.

Commissioner Plaskon suggested funding the application at the level being sought from other cities, which would be about \$12,000.

Commissioner Beighle said she favored not funding the application at all. Commissioner Bruels agreed.

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that during the first round of reviews the Commission talked about earmarking its limited funding on domestic violence programs already being funded and that have solid track records.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

60. Refugee Women's Alliance – ReWA Domestic Violence Program Support Groups

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the program has been funded by the city in the past and that the application seeks a six percent increase.

Commissioner Yantis suggested flat funding.

Commissioner Beighle observed that the program is very cost effective.

The Commissioners agreed that the program is worthwhile, but also agreed that the city is funding the program at a higher per-Bellevue-client level than similar programs.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the program at its previous level without an increase.

61. Sound Mental Health – Behavioral Responsibility Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the application was seeking a 4.4 percent increase.

Commissioner Bruels commented that the responses to the Commission's questions about recidivism rates were not quite on point. He noted that the national statistics they quote are important, but do not speak specifically to the effectiveness of the program in Bellevue. He added, however, that if he were running the program he would be unapologetic. Empirical data about recidivism is beside the point to some degree given the greater justice issue involved. Domestic violence is very often characterized as a women's issue, but in fact it is a men's issue. Domestic violence will never be resolved until men decide to sit down and talk to each other about why it is that 90 percent of all violence done in society is committed by men. The Behavioral Responsibility Program is one of the few programs in the entire region that addresses the issue, and for that reason alone it should be funded.

Commissioner Yantis proposed flat funding for the application. He pointed out that going beyond that point for several applications will only postpone the inevitable task of reconciling the allocations with the amount of available money, and that will mean reductions.

Commissioner Beighle favored fully funding the application. She noted that the program is the only one of its kind that Bellevue funds, and the proposed increase is moderate.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the program at its previous level without an increase.

62. YWCA Seattle King Snohomish – Domestic Violence Services

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the program is new to Bellevue.

Commissioner Yantis noted that the amount of funding sought from Bellevue would fund every Bellevue client. He said the same appears to be true for the other jurisdictions being asked for funding with the exception of Federal Way.

Ms. Leslie said the program is located in south King County but apparently is serving Bellevue residents. Commissioner Stout observed that by the very nature of domestic violence programs, residents frequently seek help away from their home turf.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

63. Asian Counseling and Referral Service – Asian Pacific American Mental Health Project

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the program is currently funded by the city and the application is seeking an increase of just over three percent.

Commissioner Bruels said his general feeling was that most of the programs in goal area #4 should be funded at the flat level.

Commissioner Beighle said she was unclear if the proposed increase in funding was predicated on an understanding that the program falls within one of the Commission's focus areas.

Commissioner Yantis asked if the program receives funding from any other Eastside city.

Ms. O'Reilly said only Bellevue clients are served with Bellevue dollars. Other clients are served, but not with Bellevue money. The program receives funding from the Bellevue School District as well.

Commissioner Beighle observed that the agency does not have a board member from Bellevue.

Commissioner Stout suggested that if it becomes necessary to reduce funding for the program, the Commission should be specific in not funding the second outcome, choosing to fund only the first outcome.

Commissioner Yantis said he could support giving the application a cost of living increase.

Commissioner Plaskon observed that the program is heavily dependent on King County funding, which is likely going to be reduced. He said he could support including a cost of living increase for the application.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment.

64. Bridge Disability Ministries – Certified Professional Guardianship Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the program is new to Bellevue funding.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

65. Crisis Clinic – 24-Hour Crisis Line

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the program has historically been funded by Bellevue and that it was seeking a 20 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Beighle said her inclination was to fully fund the application.

Commissioner Hoople said at most he could support a cost of living increase with consideration for more if more money is made available.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment, and to consider additional funding if there are funds available.

66. Eastern European Counseling Center – Immigrant Integration Project

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the program is new to Bellevue funding.

It was noted that the Commission in its first round of reviews had decided not to fund the application. There was agreement that other agencies provide similar services, that the program is too dependent on municipal funding, and that the organization may be trying to expand too rapidly.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

67. Elder and Adult Day Services – Adult Day Health

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the program, which has historically been funded by the city, was seeking a 20 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Beighle pointed out that the proposed funding increase does not appear to be tied to an increase in the number of Bellevue residents served. However, the program is very cost effective.

Commissioner Stout observed that the program falls under the Commission's primary focus area in that many of the family member caregivers need the service so they can work.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment and to consider additional funding if the dollars are identified.

68. HealthPoint – Dental Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese remarked that the previously funded program was seeking a 28 percent increase. She allowed that the program addresses a high need area.

Commissioner Bruels commented that the program is very cost effective. Commissioner Stout added that the program has a tie to employment in that people cannot work if they are having dental issues.

Chair Huenefeld Gese said she could support fully funding the application, but Commissioner Yantis pointed out that in doing so it would be necessary to cut somewhere else. He suggested a cost of living increase and consideration for additional funding if the dollars can be found.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment and to consider additional funding if the dollars are identified.

69. HealthPoint – Healthcare for the Homeless Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese pointed out that the application for the well-established program seeks an increase less than a cost of living increase would be.

There was agreement that the program is cost effective and addresses a high need area.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

70. HealthPoint – Medical Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application was seeking a 35 percent funding increase.

Commissioner Stout observed that the program serves 35,000 people every month countywide.

Commissioner Yantis pointed out that where the agency previously sought separate funding for the Natural Medicine program, they are now folding it into the one application; that accounts for the apparent high percentage increase.

The Commissioners agreed that the program is important and is addressing a critical need.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application at the \$70,000 level to recognize the addition of the Natural Medicine program, and to consider additional funding if more dollars are made available.

71. HERO House – HERO House

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application was seeking a 178 percent increase in funding for the previously funded application.

It was agreed that the program is excellent and is meeting a critical need in the community. It was also recognized that the program is very cost effective.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment and to consider additional funding if more dollars are identified.

72. Jubilee REACH Center – Adult Dental Clinic

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the program is new and therefore has not previously been funded by the city.

Commissioner Beighle pointed out that the program has only been in operation for six months and that she would prefer to put dollars into established dental programs.

Commissioner Stout held that the program represents a very worthy effort, but suggested the program is currently too unstable.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

73. NAMI Eastside – Education, Support and Advocacy

Ms. O'Reilly provided the Commissioners with copies of an updated budget for the program showing revenues and expenses. She said the budget totals differed somewhat from what was submitted online and included a two-percent increase for staff on the expense side.

The Commissioners agreed that the program serves a difficult-to-serve population.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment.

74. Overlake Hospital Medical Center – Senior Care

There was agreement that the program does not address the Commissions' focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

75. Pediatric Interim Care Center, Inc. – Interim Care of Drug-Exposed Infants

There was agreement that the program does not address the Commissions' focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

76. Providence Marianwood Foundation – Senior Access to Long-term Health Care

There was agreement that the program does not address the Commissions' focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

77. Sea Mar Community Health Center – Sea Mar Community Health Centers Bellevue Medical

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the program has not previously asked for funding from Bellevue.

Commissioner Stout suggested that if additional dollars are identified, she would support funding the program. The city has a very large Hispanic population that could use additional services.

Commissioner Bruels said he liked the fact that the agency is committed to being a team player in the community generally, not just in the Latino community.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application but to consider funding it if additional dollars are identified.

78. Senior Services – Volunteer Transportation

The Commissioners were in agreement that the well-established program offers a large bang for the buck.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

79. Sound Mental Health – Children’s Community Services

Commissioner Bruels said at first he questioned the cost figures until he realized they average in all of their services, including medications.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

80. Sound Mental Health – Low-Income Counseling Services

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the previously funded program was seeking a 2.7 percent increase.

Commissioner Stout suggested the costs are reasonable and that the program provides the city with a good return on its investment. She added that the program is the only one of its kind serving the Eastside.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

81. Therapeutic Health Services – Low-Income Adult Chemical Dependency and Mental Health Treatment

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the application was seeking a 2.7 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Bruels pointed out that while the percentage increase is small, the dollar increase is substantial.

Commissioner Stout noted that only a small portion of the program budget comes from Bellevue even though a large number of Bellevue clients are served. The program has a new bent toward supporting the family unit and has good family outcome indicators.

Chair Huenefeld Gese added that the program is very collaborative and flexible.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

82. Alliance of People with disabilities – Youth Transition Program

The Commissioners agreed that the city funds similar services offered by other agencies and noted that very few Bellevue youth are served by the program.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

83. Asian Pacific Language School – Multicultural and Multilingual Early Learning

The Commissioners all agreed that the program does not address the focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

84. AtWork! – Community Liaison

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application was seeking a 3.3 percent increase.

There was agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

85. AtWork! – School-to-Work Partnership

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the program has not previously been funded by the city.

Commissioner Stout said she would like to know why the school district chose to not continue funding for the program. She said she likes the program outcomes. Though new, the program is offered by an existing well-established agency that is already working with the target population.

There was agreement to consider funding the application if additional dollars are identified.

86. AtWork! – Transitional Employment Consultant

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the established program was seeking a 3.5 percent funding increase.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

87. Bellevue College – BC Women’s Center/Center for Career Connections

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the application was seeking no increase in its allocation.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

88. Bellevue College – Early Learning Center/Head Start

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the application was seeking a 3.6 percent increase.

Ms. O’Reilly pointed out an error in the application relative to registration and tuition revenues.

Commissioner Stout said the program offers critical early intervention for children not fully school ready.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

89. Bellevue College – Preparing for Work

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the application was seeking a three percent increase.

Commissioner Stout said she would like to see the organization look for some additional funding sources. For a public institution of higher education, they appear to be overly dependent on funding from the city.

Ms. Leslie pointed out that the program initially came about as the result of an initiative put forward by the City Manager. At the time, Bellevue College was not offering ESL programs specifically related to employment.

Commissioner Bruels observed that while the total budget program is set to increase by 1.9 percent, Bellevue’s contribution is shown to be increasing by three percent. Commissioner Stout said her concern was that funding from Bellevue represents 60 percent of the total budget. The services are provided free of charge, as are the books for those who cannot afford to buy them.

There was agreement that the program relates to a focus area.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

90. Bellevue School District – Early Learning and After-School Programs

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application was seeking a 15 percent increase.

Commissioner Stout pointed out that the program has added an additional high-need school and is anticipating a ten percent increase in demand. A play and learn group is also set to be added.

Commissioner Bruels observed that 50 percent of the Ardmore students qualify for the free or reduced lunch program.

Commissioner Yantis commented that the dollars from Bellevue are used to fully fund the Bellevue students. Ms. O'Reilly highlighted that fact that while students attend from outside the district, the scholarships are only offered to students who live in Bellevue.

Commissioner Plaskon allowed that the need is very well documented.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase, and to hold open the notion of including additional funding if the dollars are identified.

91. Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue – Project Learn

Chair Huenefeld Gese stated that the application sought a 29.1 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Yantis said he was confused by the application in that it says Bellevue dollars will pay for every Bellevue child, but there are a lot of funds received by the program from other funders. Ms. O'Reilly explained that the demographic profile information was populated through the database. She said she assumed the non-Bellevue data was not made a part of the application. The application indicates the clients are 50 percent very low income, 30 percent low income, and 20 percent moderate income.

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that while the program is a good one and meets a documented need for intervention services, the proposed increase in funding is significant.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living adjustment, and to hold open the possibility of additional funding if the money can be found.

92. Boys and Girls Clubs of Bellevue – Summer Camp

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the application was seeking a 14.1 percent increase.

Commissioner Stout commented that the program is a very good one but questioned whether the city can afford to absorb the requested increase in funding.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

93. Child Care Resources – Child Care Financial Assistance

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the application was seeking a 12.9 percent increase.

Commissioner Stout stated that the program clearly falls under the Commission's focus areas.

Commissioner Beighle said the program is not as cost effective as she would like it to be, certainly less so than the YMCA Eastside child care program. Commissioner Stout clarified that the program provides child care subsidies in the form of vouchers, not actual child care.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase, and to consider additional funding if more dollars are made available.

94. Child Care Resources – Child Care Information and Referral

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the application for the well-established program was seeking a five percent increase.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

95. Child Care Resources – Homeless Child Care

Chair Huenefeld Gese observed that the program was seeking a substantial 17.7 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Stout suggested that the critical service is needed to help stabilize homeless families and to minimize the impacts of homelessness on children.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the program with a cost of living increase and to consider additional funding if the money can be identified.

96. Hopelink – Hopelink Adult Education Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese pointed out that the application was seeking a three percent funding increase. The program used to be known as Eastside Literacy and includes an ESL component.

Commissioner Stout said the program meets the Commission's focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application.

97. Jewish Family Service – Refugee and Immigrant Program

Ms. Leslie reminded the Commissioners that funding for the program is split between General Fund dollars and CDBG dollars. With the receipt of more CDBG funding than anticipated, the program will be receiving some additional dollars in 2010.

Commissioner Bruels questioned why the program's ratings for literacy success were so low, and why the application did not give any reasons. He allowed that the low employment figures were because of the recession. Staff agreed to seek an answer from the agency.

There was preliminary agreement to fully fund the application pending an answer to the question regarding literacy outcomes.

98. Jubilee REACH Center – Storytime/ESL

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the program was seeking a 15.6 percent increase.

Commissioner Beighle referred to the second sentence of the last paragraph on the last page of the staff report and asked if the program is being used as a method for increasing parishioners for a church organization. Commissioner Hoople pointed out that the program is conducted in a church but is not operated by a church.

Commissioner Stout said she had the same level of discomfort in reading the line. She allowed that the program does a good job of walking a fine line in an appropriate manner.

Commissioner Bruels commented that the program deals with a population that does not necessarily ascribe to Christian values and ideals. The program may in fact be alienating some of its clientele by presenting the images in the language used.

Commissioner Yantis reminded the Commissioners that a similar question was asked of the program staff during the tour of the facility, and their answer was that they are very careful not to proselytize.

Chair Huenefeld Gese said during her visit to the facility she had the clear impression of a Christian organization. While not a bad thing, there is a clear Christian underlayment.

Commissioner Yantis said what he heard during the tour was that the program is Christian in terms of serving the community, something that is a strong part of the Christian faith, but without the message in words that goes along with the Christian faith.

Commissioner Beighle expressed a desire to attend one of the meetings to see how they are carried out. Ms. Leslie encouraged Commissioner Beighle to call ahead first so the staff will know she is not just someone off the street.

Chair Huenefeld Gese stressed that she was not intending to question the program's credibility.

There was preliminary agreement fund the application with a cost of living increase.

99. Kindering Center – Early Childhood Consultation Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese noted that the application sought a four percent increase.

Commissioner Beighle observed that Bellevue dollars are used to pay 100 percent of the Bellevue clients served. Ms. Leslie said that is a historical thing.

Commissioner Hoople said the program meets a critical need.

Ms. O'Reilly referred to a typo in the staff report and clarified that the agency opened its doors in 1962, not 1982.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

100. Kindering Center – Outreach Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the application is for a new program.

Commissioner Bruels said the program is a very good one, but said the city may not be able to afford it.

Commissioner Yantis concurred and added that it does not fall under the Commission's focus areas.

Ms. O'Reilly said the screening program targets homeless shelters and transitional housing units where the data shows the kids are more at risk.

Chair Huenefeld Gese said she would certainly support asking the Council for more money to fund the program.

Commissioner Stout suggested the program could be determined to fall under the focus areas in that it is a direct response to the economic crisis in that the local families have lost their jobs and homes. The program is projected to serve 96 Bellevue families, which is a twofold increase.

Commissioner Bruels pointed out that the application indicates the possibility of allocating other general funds from the agency toward the program budget.

There was preliminary agreement to consider funding the application if additional dollars are identified.

101. Lake Washington Technical College – LWTC Student Support Program

Chair Huenefeld Gese said the application was for a program not previously funded by Bellevue.

Commissioner Stout said funding the program would be setting a precedent.

There was preliminary agreement not to fund the application.

102. YMCA of Greater Seattle – YMCA Eastside Child Care Programs

Chair Huenefeld Gese commented that the application was seeking a 22.3 percent increase in funding.

Commissioner Stout pointed out that the program has added two additional centers.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

103. YWCA Seattle King Snohomish – Eastside Employment Services

Chair Huenefeld Gese stated that the agency was seeking an 8.2 percent funding increase for the program.

The Commissioners agreed the program is effective and needed, and that it fits the focus areas.

There was preliminary agreement to fund the application with a cost of living increase.

****BREAK****

Following the break, Mr. Adriano said the preliminary allocation figure totaled close to \$2.6 million. Based on the projection for 2011 of just under \$2.7 million, there would be just shy of \$57,000 left to allocate. However, a number of the allocations are marked for funding beyond just a cost of living increase, and several applications not funded that were earmarked for funding if additional money is identified by the Council.

Commissioner Yantis suggested ranking all of the applications flagged for funding beyond a cost of living adjustment as high, medium and low to help narrow the Commission's thinking.

Councilmember Chelminiak explained that the Budget One process is a zero-based approach to setting the city's budget. However, for at least the first year, and probably both years, of the biennium Bellevue residents will continue to face tough economic times. Unemployment is still hovering at around ten percent. The question is whether or not the Commission should make a request of the Council that is specific to the economic times of the next biennium. That could take the form of a one-time-only increase in the human services fund to be targeted to unemployment, a roof overhead, and basic needs. The city is facing a \$9 million or \$10 million deficit, but even so \$100,000 or \$150,000 per year is a relatively small amount. Rather than just claiming that times are tough and an increase of ten percent in the human services allocation is needed, any request for additional dollars should be specifically tied to identified needs.

Commissioner Yantis suggested considering agencies and programs already funded differently from new agencies and programs, especially where one-time funding is involved.

Commissioner Stout commented that too often human services funding is short-sighted in that it looks at the current year and the next year but fails to look further down the road. The fact is prevention programs funded in the near term can save jurisdictions huge amounts of money in years to come. Some of the new proposals include good prevention services. Ms. Leslie pointed out that prevention services could be targeted with the remaining \$57,000.

Councilmember Chelminiak urged the Commission to put together a solid proposal for Scenario 1 projected. He suggested that it will be very difficult for the Council to vote to cut human services dollars; he said he certainly would argue strenuously against making any such reductions.

The Commissioners were assigned the homework of ranking the applications flagged for funding beyond a cost of living adjustment as high, medium and low and submit their conclusions to staff prior to the June 22 Commission meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS – None

- 8. NEW BUSINESS – None
- 9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None
- 10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Huenefeld Gese adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Secretary to the Human Services Commission

Date

Chairperson of the Human Services Commission

Date