

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

June 23, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-112

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Chair Amirfaiz, Commissioners Ma, Mansfield, Phan, Singh

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Chair Piper

STAFF PRESENT: Christy Stangland, Toni Esparza, Leslie Miller, Asma Ahmed, Department of Parks and Community Services; Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis

GUEST SPEAKERS: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner Ma who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Chair Piper. Chair Piper's absence was excused. Vice Chair Amirfaiz participated via Zoom.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A mother, son and mentor discuss Youth Eastside Services Success Mentoring Program: Johnny Teefa said the first meeting with Success mentor Ed Caldera was awkward given that it was via Zoom. The first in-person meeting involved geocaching and talking about the program. Now that everyone in the program has met each other, it feels more like a family. The program is good for helping kids stay focused on school and for expressing feelings.

Joanna Teefa, mother of Johnny Teefa and another son in the Success Mentoring program who the counselor figured out was dealing with a lot of anxiety. The counselor was very patient and taught different skills about what to do at home to help with the anxiety and work it out in a positive way. Two years later when the father passed away, the program welcomed both sons into the mentorship program and just the right mentors were found for each of the boys. Both mentors have become members of the family, and both boys have grown emotionally.

Mentor Ed Caldera noted having been involved with the Success Mentoring program at its beginning and is now with the program again after having moved away for eleven years. The program is very important given the high level of need in the community. Hopefully the program will be able to continue for many more years.

Speakers discuss Youth Eastside Services Latine Program: Daniel Randen reported having

been with Latino Heat, which is part of the leadership program at YES, for six years (since sixth grade) and currently serves as its president. The association has allowed for empowering other youth. Some of the quietest kids in school have become the loudest and proudest members of their culture. The program instills confidence in kids. YES has become a second home.

Anthony reported recently joining Latino Heat and currently serves as vice president. The program has facilitated growing into a leader and working on behalf of the community. There is now a desire to get more people involved and to have more of an impact. Latino Heat is a good program for bringing people together and facilitating different events. It has been a positive experience.

Lupita noted also being associated with Latino Heat. The program celebrates the students involved in the program and gives them a safe space in which to express themselves while offering opportunities to learn about the Latinx culture. The program encourages the students to be proud of who they are and where they have come from. By knowing they are part of a group, the students benefit from having a support system.

Ingrid Randen, mother of Daniel and an employee of the Bellevue School District working with preschoolers, remarked that when children have access to someone who can listen to them and be there for them, it makes a huge difference. The program creates an opportunity for the students to express themselves and to feel confident. The students are given the opportunity to learn about themselves and where they want to go.

Michael Itti, executive director of Chinese Information and Service Center, noted the program has been serving King County since 1972, starting in Seattle. There are now also offices in Bellevue and Kent serving immigrants and their family members annually through after school and preschool programs, English classes, healthcare information and programs that serve older adults. The support from Bellevue is appreciated. The East King County Family Resource Center is replicating some of the services provided in Seattle. Those not able to access systems online, and those who do not know how government works, are at a disadvantage. Services are provided in culturally appropriate ways. The Russian Senior Day Program, which was launched in 2019, is operated out of the North Bellevue Community Center on Tuesdays and Fridays, in part utilizing private funding from Amazon. The social connection is critical for the Russian-speaking immigrants and refugees arriving from Eastern Europe. Many older adults during the pandemic isolated themselves in their homes and the program is providing connections for them. The program currently has staffing at 1.5 FTEs but there is a need for 2.5 FTEs. Going forward, it will be necessary to find additional funding to continue the second day of weekly programming. New people are scheduled to arrive from Ukraine in July.

Megan Fleming, manager of Washington Warm Line run by Crisis Connections, noted the program was requesting funding from Bellevue for the first time. The program is a peer support service for people living with emotional and mental health challenges. Everyone who volunteers with the program faces their own mental health challenges. The program provides a safe and confidential space for those who wish to connect and talk with someone who understands the struggles of mental health challenges. The Warm Line also provides a space for the volunteers to build a community of support among themselves and to gain experience if they wish to pursue a career as a peer. A total of 102 calls were received last year from Bellevue residents, but the program's low-barrier status means that total is only a portion of the total number of calls received from Bellevue residents. The ability to remain anonymous can be a lifeline for some callers.

Tiffany Olson, 2-1-1 manager for Crisis Connections, thanked the city for its current and past

funding. For many years the program has ensured that underserved and vulnerable community members receive critical support. The events from 2020 onward have created a climate that feels impossible for many to navigate. People have lost jobs, homes, loved ones and a sense of security, and they are experiencing anxiety. More and more first-time users of human services have been seen as folks who have reached out for empathy and support. King County's 2-1-1 the lifeline that connects people to critical resources such as food, shelter, eviction prevention and caregiver support. The information and referral specialists help residents navigate the complex health and human services landscape and make connections. The overarching goal of 2-1-1 is to provide the support needed to keep urgent needs from becoming crises, and to connect people to resources to improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life. In 2021 more than 2,314 calls were received from Bellevue residents.

Vera Abariy, Teen Link Youth Manager at Crisis Connections, thanked the city for its past program funding. Teen Link is an anonymous, confidential and non-judgmental help line for teens operated by teens. Connections are made via phone, text and chat, and the volunteers address urgent problems ranging from self-harm to loneliness, bullying, abuse, substance use and family issues before they turn into crises. Teen Link also provides youth suicide and substance use prevention training classes. Clinicians on the Teen Link substance use prevention line offer consultations and referrals to teens, parents and any adults who are worried about a teen. The volunteers are provided with 60 to 70 hours of training. A volunteer-from-home program is being piloted in which teens from across the entire state can volunteer remotely. The program has 16 teen volunteers and two adult mentors from the city of Bellevue alone. A youth-focused resource guide which outlines hundreds of behavioral health and critical resources for youth is available in booklet format and by digital download. To date, more than 32,000 booklets have been distributed, 1,556 of which went to Bellevue teens in 2021. More than 500 students have been educated in the suicide classes. The annual goal of 1,550 connections in Bellevue was exceeded and totaled 2,147 connections.

Ru-Ping Hsu with the Passionate Volunteer Program at Kin On, shared with the Commissioners a video highlighting the program. There are now 610 members of the program, which provides mental health services for members. Attendance at the program has been growing since the pandemic, all aided by the professional retired volunteer instructors. Resources are needed to keep the program running.

Darrel Haines with Bellevue College's Preparing for Work program thanked the city for partnering with the program. Over the last 25 years the program has enjoyed a harmonious relationship with the city as it has helped to support the high proportion of foreign-born residents of Bellevue. The program offers to students work skills training that helps prepare them to be viable members of the community. The program also provides language and creative readiness skills through its committed and experienced staff. The program is housed within the ESL department of Basic and Transitional Studies at Bellevue College. A number of outreach strategies are used to call attention to the program in the community. The strategies used have been adapted as needed, particularly during the Pandemic. The program has also been able to establish a community beyond the classroom via virtual talk time sessions. There is a wait list of at least 20 students per quarter, and three classes are run per quarter throughout the year. Hopefully the city will value the program and continue supporting it.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis shared that earlier in the month the Council received a report on the city's progress toward completing the 2021-2023 priorities, which are divided into seven strategic target areas. Over a three-year work plan, work to address 96 percent of the targets

has been started, and 15 percent have been completed. The Council vision is part of a 20-year vision for the city that was developed in 2014 and updated every two or three years. One action, the development of a data dashboard to track overall priority activities, indicators and progress, will go live during the summer months.

With regard to addressing the need for affordable housing and shelter, the Council is developing Land Use Code amendments that are consistent with new state law that allows supportive housing where residences, hotels and motels are allowed. After considerable outreach, the Planning Commission recommended distinguishing between long-term supportive housing and emergency shelters or housing. A conditional use permit would be required for emergency shelters. The work follows the launch in May of an effort to identify sites owned by faith-based organizations where affordable housing could be built. Twenty-five such sites have been identified that meet the criteria. The Land Use Code amendment provided in December 2021 provides for a 50 percent density bonus for affordable housing developed on faith-, non-profit- or public-owned properties.

The Council also put forward a landmark tree ordinance affecting anyone thinking about taking down a tree on their property. The ordinance is in recognition of an urgent need for actions that preserve the city's tree canopy. The city's long-time goal has been to achieve a 40 percent tree canopy, but currently the percentage is hovering in the mid-30s. Under the ordinance, a Clearing and Grading permit is required for the removal of any landmark tree, defined as being at least 24 inches in diameter and more than 20 feet tall. The Environmental Stewardship Plan adopted in 2020 identified a lack of citywide regulations for tree removal, so the ordinance addresses that. The ordinance also addresses the safety issue in response to a recent incident involving a homeowner hiring an untrained person to remove a tree during a windstorm, the result of which was the tree falling onto the neighbor's home.

With regard to the budget process, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis said the Council held the first of three public hearings on the preliminary 2023-2024 budget and the 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program. The second public hearing will be held during the summer and the third in the fall. In addition to the public hearings, the city is working to engage with a variety of stakeholders through a variety of means.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis praised the work of the Commission in addressing a record number of funding applications. He had to depart to attend another meeting.

6. STAFF AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS – None

7. INFORMATION FOR THE COMMISSION

A. Human Services Application Review – Round 3 Continued

Goal Area #2

Application 54 – Eastside Legal Assistance Program: Medical-Legal Partnership

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the review team recommended funding at the \$10,000 level based on unit cost and hours.

Commissioner Mansfield voiced support for funding at \$14,000 as recommended by the staff. The program is important and is free to the clients.

Commissioner Phan concurred with the staff recommendation for the same reasons.

Commissioner Singh agreed as well as did Commissioner Ma.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the units costs work out to be \$95.49 per service hour but agreed to fund at the staff-recommended level.

Commissioner Phan asked what value there is in knowing the service unit costs in reaching conclusions about funding programs. Vice Chair Amirfaiz said her review looked at unit costs and the number of residents served.

Application 53 - Eastside Legal Assistance Program: Pooled Cities General Request

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding of \$42,500 based on the numbers served, the hours and the budget.

Commissioner Mansfield recommended funding closer to \$52,500. The program includes actual legal representation in court which is a much higher-priced service. Commissioner Phan agreed. Commissioner Singh voiced support for funding at \$65,000, the previous funding level. Commissioner Ma agreed with Commissioner Singh noting that the program has seen its service units increase in 2021 and 2022 and in what it is projecting for 2023.

Commissioner Phan agreed to go along with the higher funding level. Commissioner Mansfield indicated a willingness to go with the higher level of funding, but Vice Chair Amirfaiz remained committed to the original recommendation of \$52,500.

Application 61 – King County Bar Foundation: Neighborhood Legal Clinics

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended going with the staff recommendation. Commissioner Singh agreed.

Commissioner Mansfield proposed increasing the allocation to the requested amount, which is not all that much. The neighborhood clinics partner with other organizations. Commissioner Phan concurred.

Commissioner Ma also concurred with the staff recommendation and pointed out funding for other legal services, including ELAP, were earmarked for increased funding. The application does not project any increase in service units or in the number of projected residents served.

Commissioners Phan and Mansfield agreed to the staff recommendation.

There was overall agreement to mark the application as appropriate for additional funding if more funds are identified.

Application 43 – Assistance League of the Eastside: Operation School Bell

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended fully funding the ask. Commissioner Mansfield agreed and praised the program. Commissioner Phan agreed as well, as did Commissioner Ma.

Commissioner Singh recommended \$10,000 but indicated full funding would also be acceptable.

Application 44 – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound: Youth Mentoring

Vice Chair Amirfaiz suggested the hours of service listed in the application warrants funding

as recommended by the staff. Commissioner Mansfield agreed but said if extra funds are found the program would be a good one to choose. Commissioners Phan, Singh and Ma all agreed with the staff recommendation.

Application 47 – Bellevue School District: Human Services

Vice Chair Amirfaiz allowed having struggled with the ask given that the school district is supported by taxpayer dollars. The benefits and salaries in the budget are very high. The staff recommendation is acceptable but not funding the application at all would also be acceptable.

Commissioner Mansfield agreed with at least the staff recommendation. The Family Connection Center is an important part of the Bellevue School District and is open to the public, not just the school district. Their federal funding does not quite cover all that the program does.

Commissioner Phan voiced being fully supportive of the Family Connection Center and agreed to funding at the staff recommended level at a minimum and would like to see more given. The family engagement specialists with the program know the community inside and out and she said they are rock stars.

Commissioner Singh suggested funding at \$20,000 but could also agree to the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Ma allowed that the program offers valuable services but pointed out the Bellevue School District has a huge budget and also receives federal funding. The program does appear to be losing some federal funding. The staff recommended amount should be the top bar.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed that the program is very important but also agreed that the program has access to other funding sources.

Commissioner Mansfield added that the program's state and federal funding is based on FTEs in the school district. There is no state or federal funding directly for the services provided to the public. Commissioner Phan added that while there might be other organizations out there, the Family Connection Center program directly affects Bellevue's youth. The program is very important, especially for youth struggling with mental health issues. Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed but stressed the need for more specific outcomes.

The consensus was to go with the staff recommendation and to include a note about the need for better outcome measures.

Application 48 – Catholic Community Services: Volunteer Services

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at the previous level of \$16,581.

Commissioner Mansfield agreed with the staff recommendation or between \$10,000 and \$12,000. The service is certainly valuable and is operated mostly by volunteers.

Commissioner Phan voiced support for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Singh suggested that given the projected service numbers, \$18,000 would be an appropriate funding level.

Commissioner Ma said that is very close to the previous funding level. The application

projects a huge increase in the number of service units, and there are not many other programs in the community serving those with disabilities. Support was indicated for funding at the previous level.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz commented that staff are needed to manage the volunteers and the line item in the budget for staff is reasonable.

The consensus was to fund the application at \$16,581. A note was added that there was some support for the staff recommendation.

Application 49 – Center for Human Services: Family Support Program

Vice Chair Amirfaiz pointed out that no numbers were included in the application for Bellevue in 2021. There also were no numbers for service unit three, training and workshops. The taxes and benefits line items in the budget seem very high.

Christy Stangland clarified that the line item for Service Unit 3 is the pertinent one and it shows the program served 220 individuals in 2021 and is projecting to serve 200. It is true that Service Unit 1 and Service Unit 2 do not show any numbers.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed to go with the staff recommendation but would also agree to not fund the application.

Commissioner Mansfield noted that the program is primarily based in North King County and Shoreline and only the training workshops are proposing to serve Bellevue residents. The recommendation was to pass on the application.

Commissioner Phan voiced support for fully funding the application at \$5,000. Noting that the issue of salaries keeps coming up, it was stressed that organizations are having a hard time retaining and hiring employees, and the cost of living is higher. Salaries have to be higher as a result. Funding applications should not be ruled out just based on salaries.

Commissioner Singh supported passing on the application given that it primary serves residents of the northern part of the county rather than Bellevue. Commissioner Ma concurred.

Commissioner Phan disagreed. Bellevue has the most money of all the cities from whom funding is being requested. That is why some organizations submitted applications to Bellevue. The program does serve Bellevue residents.

Commissioner Ma agreed but stressed that \$5,000 is not that much.

The majority favored passing on the application, but a note was included to come back to the application for additional consideration.

Application 50 – Crisis Connections: King County 2-1-1

There was consensus in favor of going with the staff recommendation.

Application 51 – Crisis Connections: Teen Link

Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield proposed going a little higher given that the program targets teens and suicide prevention via talk, text and chat, which is important to teens. Funding should be

at the previous funding level.

Commissioner Phan urged consideration of funding the full ask because the numbers in the application likely will be exceeded. The recent panel discussion on mental health also stressed the need for such programs.

Commissioner Singh also recommended fully funding the application, and Commissioner Ma agreed for the same reasons mentioned by Commissioner Phan.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz explained that the recommendation to go with what the staff recommended was based on the service units and their ask of the city of Kent.

The majority agreed to fully fund the ask.

Application 52 – Crisis Clinic: Warm Line

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended full funding at \$5,000. All the other Commissioners agreed.

Application 55 – Hopelink: Family Development

Vice Chair Amirfaiz voiced the need to see the completed budget before making a recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield supported the staff recommendation as a minimum. The program offers case management local to Bellevue. It is a good program.

Commissioner Phan favored seeing the full budget before reaching a decision.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz pointed out that the budget does not include anything about other funding sources, such as federal dollars and fundraising. Christy Stangland allowed that the program does have fundraising but does not have any federal, governmental or foundational funding. Cities and fundraising are the only funding sources for the program.

Commissioner Singh recommended funding at \$50,000. The program is very useful.

Commissioner Ma concurred. The program helps to prevent homelessness. Previous funding was at \$46,000 and the projection is for an increase in service units. At the least funding should match the previous award.

Commissioner Phan indicated agreement with the previous funding level.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz was not okay with that because the 425 service hours for Bellevue works out to be \$130 per hour at the ask level, which is very high. Vice Chair Amirfaiz proposed funding at \$45 per hour, which would be \$18,125.

Commissioner Mansfield held out for the previous award and Commissioner Phan concurred. Commissioner Singh also was okay with the previous ask.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz reiterated the argument against the high unit cost, saying it was not fair to other applicants.

Commissioner Ma asked if funding at \$30,000 would satisfy everyone. That would work out to about \$50 per hour.

Commissioner Mansfield stressed that the program helps to prevent homelessness, an issue on which the city spends a lot of money. It is just not logical to put a service unit dollar amount on preventing homelessness.

Commissioner Phan pointed out that 65 percent of the clients served are BIPOC and very low income.

The conclusion was to fund the application at the previous funding level of \$46,679, and to include a note that there also was a strong objection due to the cost of the service units.

Application 56 – Hopelink: Financial Capabilities

Vice Chair Amirfaiz allowed that the unit cost was quite high but indicated support for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield called for going higher than the staff recommendation but could support the staff recommendation. Financial literacy and understanding is another area that leads to preventing homelessness. The issue is neglected by the schools and is a growing concern.

Commissioner Phan agreed with the staff recommendation. Commissioners Ma and Singh concurred.

Application 57 – Influence the Choice: Parent and Community Education

Vice Chair Amirfaiz concurred with the staff recommendation as did Commissioners Mansfield, and Singh. Commissioners Phan and Ma suggested going with the full ask but agreed to go with the staff recommendation.

Application 59 – Kindering Center: ParentChild+

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at \$5000. Commissioners Mansfield, Phan, Singh and Ma agreed with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Phan noted that the program serves children with special needs and immigrant and refugee families.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz was willing to along with the majority.

Application 58 – Kindering Center: Families in Transition

Vice Chair Amirfaiz supported the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield wanted to see funding higher than the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Phan agreed with the staff recommendation but also agreed that if possible the program should be funded at a higher level.

Commissioners Singh and Ma concurred with the staff recommendation.

The application was flagged for potentially funding it at a higher level.

Application 62 – Rainier Athletes: Rainier Athletes

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at \$20,000.

Commissioner Mansfield stressed the importance of the program in that it serves youth who might not traditionally get involved in such programs. However, the ask is fairly high considering the program will only serve 40 students. The staff recommendation is acceptable but funding at a lower level would also be acceptable.

Commissioner Phan said Rainier Athletes is a great resource for the students and their families as well as the community. The ask is, however, quite high. Funding as recommended by the staff makes sense.

Commissioner Singh agreed the program is good and agreed the ask is very high. The program should be funded at \$20,000.

Commissioner Ma agreed with funding at \$20,000.

The consensus was to mark the application for funding at \$20,000 and to include a note indicating Commissioner Phan's support for the staff recommendation.

Application 112 – Sound Generations: Volunteer Transportation Services

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at between \$12,000 and \$15,000.

Commissioner Mansfield said the funding level should, at a minimum, be consistent with the staff recommendation. The program is unique and needed.

Commissioner Phan agreed the minimum funding level should be the staff recommendation. Transportation is one of the Commission's goal areas.

Commissioner Singh indicated support for fully funding the application but said the staff recommendation would be acceptable.

Commissioner Ma also supported fully funding the application. The city has an aging population living isolated homes in suburban areas and there is a need to provide them with services. Funding at \$15,000 would be okay if full funding is not possible.

There was consensus to fund the program at \$15,000. A note was added indicating some support for full funding.

Application 64 – Youth Eastside Services: Community-Based Outreach

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at \$16,545 based on the unit costs and number of service hours.

Commissioner Mansfield favored the staff recommendation at a minimum. The program serves a population that might not be granted similar services anywhere else.

Commissioner Phan said full funding would be best but funding at the previous level of \$35,003 would also be okay. Commissioner Singh also recommended that level of funding or more. Commissioner Ma also concurred with the previous funding amount.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the unit costs works out to be \$134.34 per hour, which is too high.

Commissioner Ma argued that the program is Bellevue-centric and one that is hard to put a dollar amount on the service units. There are many positive outcomes resulting from the program, far more than those stated in the application.

The majority favored funding at \$35,000.

Application 65 – Youth Eastside Services: Success Mentoring

Vice Chair Amirfaiz voiced support for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield supported going with at least the previous funding level. Mentoring provides many benefits.

Commissioner Phan wanted to see funding at the full ask.

Commissioner Singh said the program is a good one and recommended \$25,000.

Commissioner Ma concurred with Commissioner Singh. The application is not projecting any increase in service units. Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed as well.

Application 67 – Athletes for Kids: Youth Mentoring

Commissioner Phan indicated the review team recommended fully funding the application.

Commissioner Singh proposed going with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Ma and Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed with the full ask. Vice Chair Amirfaiz noted that the unit cost worked out to \$65 per hour.

Application 68 – AtWork!: Community Inclusion

Commissioner Phan said the review team wanted to see the staff recommendation adopted.

Commissioner Singh noted the program was previously awarded \$22,000. The program is good, and the projection is to serve the same number of clients. The Commission should go with full funding.

Commissioner Ma proposed going with the previous award but also indicated support for full funding.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz noted the unit cost works out to \$276 per hour at 88 total hours for 16 residents and recommended funding at the \$8,000 level.

Commissioner Mansfield favored fully funding the program. There are not many programs for people with disabilities. The program encourages full engagement with the community.

Commissioner Ma commented that services for persons with disabilities take a lot of effort to provide and therefore come with a higher cost.

Commissioner Phan said the minimum should be the previous award level.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz did not support going with the previous award level because of the number of hours.

The majority favored the previous award level, and a note was added indicating that one Commissioner had a strong concern regarding the service unit price.

Leslie Miller pointed out that agencies use different strategies in deciding how many service units to include in their asks. Some show how many people they serve and how many people they ask for funding, which can lead to very different costs. Some agencies put down every single service unit they want funding for, while others choose to show only a portion of them. For the AtWork! application, the cost per service unit is \$87 if averaged out.

A motion to extend the meeting to complete the review of the Goal 2 application was made by Commissioner Mansfield. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Singh and the motion carried unanimously.

****BREAK****

Application 73 – Community Homes: Education for Families of Individuals with I/D Disabilities

Commissioner Phan recommended funding at \$10,000, adding that Chair Piper had indicated a preference for not funding the application at all.

Commissioner Singh supported the staff recommendation as did Commissioners Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioners Ma, Mansfield and Phan.

Application 81 – KidsQuest Children’s Museum: Sensory Access Programming

Commissioner Phan recommended either the staff recommendation or \$18,000 and said Chair Piper was for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Singh said the museum is an asset to the city but recommended against funding the sensory access program.

Commissioner Ma noted the program primarily prints materials for distribution to clients. That portion of the ask should not be funded. The recommendation made was to fund the application at \$5,000 or not at all.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz noted that the 15 to 20 percent retention is quite low. The unit cost works out to \$583. A total of 275 visits at \$30 per visit would work out to about \$8,250. Vice Chair Amirfaiz suggested funding at either that level or at \$5,000.

Commissioner Mansfield said the program is important and has not previously been funded because of Covid. The service should be made known to the community. The program should be funded at least \$15,000.

Commissioner Ma agreed with the staff recommendation but was not willing to go higher than that.

Commissioner Singh also agreed with the staff recommendation.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz remarked that given the outcomes, \$12,650 is too high.

The consensus was to go with the staff recommendation.

Application 66 – 4 Tomorrow: Life Services Program

Commissioner Phan read the notes offered by Chair Piper that pointed out the large increase in the ask without a corresponding increase in the number of service units or residents served. Commissioner Phan recommended going with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Singh recommended either the staff recommendation or \$50,000. The ask is simply too high.

Commissioner Ma recommended either \$60,000 or the staff recommendation, agreeing that the ask is very big. Vice Chair Amirfaiz concurred.

Commissioner Mansfield supported the staff recommendation, adding that the service cost per unit is actually fairly low. The program serves the Latinx population with a variety of services.

Commissioner Ma allowed that the application was previously funded at \$10,000 so the ask is a significant bump up. Increasing the allocation to \$60,000 makes sense given the need.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the unit cost works out to \$247 per hour. Support was voiced for funding at either \$50,000 or \$60,000.

Commissioner Mansfield noted from the spreadsheet provided by staff that the unit cost was \$90.99 per city of Bellevue service unit. Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the application lists 996 total hours for the first unit, and 600 30-minute case management units. Dividing the combined hours by the total ask yields the high unit cost.

Commissioner Mansfield indicated support for funding at \$60,000.

Commissioner Phan stayed with the staff recommendation. The same was true for Commissioner Singh.

The majority went with \$60,000. A note was added about possibly going up to the staff recommendation.

Application 69 – Bighug-KARC: Human Service Funding Collaborative

Commissioner Phan said the review team lacked complete information at the time the application was reviewed. Based on that fact, the team recommended not funding the application.

Commissioner Singh commented that the application gives no data regarding number of people served in Bellevue and included no projections.

Christy Stangland shared with the Commissioners updated information from the agency.

Commissioner Singh proposed going with the staff recommendation and the other Commissioners all agreed.

Application 70 – Centro Cultural Mexicano: La Casa de mi Familia

Commissioner Phan said the recommendation from Chair Piper was to fund the application at \$50,000, but personally recommended funding the full ask. The program serves a great need in the community.

Commissioner Singh recommended going with the staff recommendation. Commissioner Ma and Vice Chair Amirfaiz concurred.

Commissioner Mansfield said the application involves culturally relevant programming and as such should be funded at a higher level. Commissioner Mansfield agreed, however, to go with the staff recommendation. Commissioner Phan voiced support for the staff recommendation as well.

Application 71 – Chinese Information and Service Center: East King County Family Resource Center

Commissioner Phan said the recommendation of Chair Piper was to go with the staff recommendation. Commissioner Phan agreed with that proposal.

Commissioner Singh suggested funding the application at \$80,000.

Commissioner Ma noted that \$80,000 would be higher than what was previously awarded, but allowed that the application indicates a greater number of service units and residents served. Support was voiced for funding at \$80,000.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz indicated support for \$50,000.

Commissioner Mansfield indicated a readiness to do more but recommended the previous funding level of \$73,294.

Commissioners Phan and Singh supported \$80,000.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said based on the number of contacts the \$50,000 number was right, but also signaled support for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield agreed to go with \$80,000.

The majority recommended \$80,000.

Application 72 – Chinese Information and Service Center: Russian Speaking Senior Day Program

Commissioner Phan suggested the full ask and noted the recommendation of Chair Piper was for the staff recommendation. The closing of the Circle of Friends program left the Russian-speaking community with fewer resources and the Chinese Information and Service Center program helps to fill that gap.

Commissioner Singh recommended going with the staff recommendation. Commissioner Ma concurred but indicating going higher might be acceptable. Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioner Mansfield both agreed with the staff recommendation, with Commissioner Mansfield adding that a higher level of funding could be supported.

Commissioner Phan wanted to see funding of at least \$20,000.

The consensus was to go with the staff recommendation.

Application 76 – Congolese Integration Network: Youth Program

It was noted that the recommendation of Chair Piper was to pass. Commissioner Phan voiced support for the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Singh said the program has not in the past served clients in Bellevue. The recommendation was to fund between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

Commissioner Ma proposed passing due to the number of residents served.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz noted the lack of information regarding service units and residents served. There is not enough information to support coming up with a funding recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield called for supporting the staff recommendation or less.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz referred to the references in the application to community relationship support through sports and events as service units. The actual 2021 number service units for Bellevue was zero, and the number of Bellevue residents served in 2021 was also zero. Asma Ahmed said an updated budget was received. Christy Stangland commented that the updated budget still included a zero for 2021. Vice Chair Amirfaiz said it was unclear what the city would be buying.

Asma Ahmed said it is a new program aimed at working with Congolese Bellevue College students and providing them with activities and resources.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz asked staff to seek information from the agency regarding previous year service unit numbers in terms of numbers served, to identify a more measurable service unit, and to better explain the need in the Bellevue for Congolese students.

Commissioner Mansfield allowed that because the program is new, all the agency can do is give an estimate, which likely would be based on the number of Congolese students at Bellevue College.

Commissioner Ma agreed that the application overall lacks clarity. If funded at all, it should be funded lower than the staff recommendation, \$10,000 or less. Commissioner Mansfield agreed to support funding at \$10,000, adding that it would be good to see the program go forward.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz voiced support for funding at \$10,000 pending receiving numbers from the agency for 2021. Commissioner Mansfield reiterated that the program is new and as such there are no numbers for previous years.

Commissioner Phan wanted to see the program funding and agreed with \$10,000. Passing on the application could send the message that the city does not fund programs that serve all minority populations.

Commissioner Singh agreed to \$10,000.

The majority agreed on \$10,000. A note was added regarding the need for additional information and clarity regarding outcomes.

Application 77 – Families of Color Seattle: Families of Color Seattle

Commissioner Phan recommended fully funding the ask and noted that Chair Piper agreed with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Singh supported funding at between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Commissioner Ma proposed funding at \$8,000 but indicated also being able to support the full ask.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz supported the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield indicated being good with \$8,000.

Commissioner Phan held out for fully funding the application, adding that had the program been on the Eastside in the past she would have personally benefited from it. The agency is seeking funding from Bellevue in order to bring the program to the Eastside. Commissioner Phan shared about having suffered from depression following childbirth.

Commissioner Singh supported funding at \$8,000. Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioners Ma and Mansfield agreed, though Commissioner Mansfield noted support for going higher. Vice Chair Amirfaiz continued to hold to the staff recommendation.

The majority agreed to funding at \$8,000.

Application 78 – Indian American Community Services: Cultural Navigation Program

Commissioner Phan called for agreeing to the staff recommendation and noted that Chair Piper had agreed to that as well.

Commissioner Singh highlighted the program's strengths and recommended full funding.

Commissioner Ma recommended as a minimum the previous award of \$16,800.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz favored the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield indicated being okay with the previous funding level.

The majority concurred with the previous funding award of \$16,800.

Application 79 – Indian American Community Services: Women, Youth and Senior Program

Commissioner Phan reported that Chair Piper's suggestion was for \$10,000. Commissioner Phan recommended fully funding the application at \$25,000.

Commissioner Singh called for funding either \$20,000 or the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Ma recommended the previous funding of \$21,800 but also indicated support for going lower.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed with the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Mansfield supported going with the previous funding level. Commissioner Singh concurred.

Commissioner Ma suggested \$20,000, less than the previous funding level but higher than the

staff recommendation. The majority agreed with that.

Application 80 – Issaquah Cultural Circle: Cultural Navigation

Commissioner Phan agreed with the staff recommendation and said the recommendation of Chair Piper was \$10,000.

Commissioner Singh proposed passing on the application. Commissioner Ma agreed, noting that none of the zip codes eligible to participate in the circle are in Bellevue.

The consensus was to not fund the application.

Application 82 – Noticias Program: Noticias en espanol para familias en Bellevue School District y Lake Washington School District

Commissioner Phan recommended fully funding the application.

Commissioner Singh recommended \$10,000. Commissioner Ma agreed, noting that even though the program is new there is a lot of momentum behind it. Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioner Mansfield agreed with \$10,000. Commissioner Phan agreed as well.

Application 83 – Kin On Health Care Center: Passionate Volunteer Navigation Program

Commissioner Phan recommended funding between \$20,000 and \$50,000, adding that the recommendation of Chair Piper was for \$50,000.

Commissioner Singh recommended passing or funding it much lower than the ask, which is very large.

Commissioner Ma said the organization is great and the volunteer program is also great. If the program is supported at all, it should be at \$20,000 or less, maybe even \$10,000.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz voiced support for funding at \$12,000.

Commissioner Mansfield noted support for not funding the application but said if it is funded it should not be at the full ask, more like between \$12,000 and \$20,000. Commissioner Phan agreed. Commissioner Singh agreed to funding at \$12,000.

The majority agreed to fund the application at \$12,000.

Application 84 – MAPS/MCRC: Information, Referrals and Resources

Commissioner Phan agreed with the staff recommendation and shared that Chair Piper supported \$10,000.

Commissioner Singh agreed with \$10,000, as did Commissioner Ma.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz noted leaning toward \$5,000 given the numbers in the application but agreed to go with \$10,000.

Commissioner Phan agreed to funding at the \$10,000 level.

The majority agreed to fund at \$10,000.

Application 86 – Open Doors for Multicultural Families: Multicultural Family Support Program

Commissioner Phan recommended \$6,000 and said Chair Piper recommended \$5,000.

Commissioner Singh recommended passing, or funding at a maximum of the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Ma asked if the agency has an office on the Eastside and added the comment that 238 service units seems like a lot given the \$6,000 ask. Commissioner Ma agreed to fund at \$5,000.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioners Mansfield and Phan all agreed to \$5,000.

Application 87 – Ubumwe Women Association: Immigrant Single Parent Family Empowerment Support Group

Commissioner Phan agreed with the staff recommendation and stated that Chair Piper recommended \$15,000.

Commissioner Singh recommended \$10,000 and highlighted the fact that same number of service units were listed in the application for all cities on the Eastside.

Commissioner Ma also recommended \$10,000, noting that according to the application the program serves some residents on the Eastside. It is true that most of the clients are located in south King County.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended \$5,000.

Commissioner Mansfield agreed with funding at \$10,000, as did Commissioner Phan. Vice Chair Amirfaiz agreed to recommend \$10,000, making that the majority consensus.

Application 88 – Youth Eastside Services: Latine Programs

Commissioner Phan recommended fully funding the application and noted that Chair Piper had recommended \$20,000.

Commissioners Singh and Ma agreed with the staff recommendation.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended \$20,000.

Commissioner Mansfield wanted to see funding at the staff level at a minimum if not at \$20,000.

The majority favored the staff recommendation. A note was added that two Commissioners supported funding at \$20,000.

Commissioner Phan commented that the Bellevue School District has received an influx of students from South American countries. For that reason, the program should be fully funded.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Adoption of Updated Human Services Commission Bylaws

A motion to approve the bylaws as presented by the assistant city attorney on June 7 was made by Commissioner Mansfield. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phan and the motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS

It was agreed to approve remote participation by Vice Chair Amirfaiz and Commissioners Phan and Mansfield on July 19.

10. CONTINUED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mansfield. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phan and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ma adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.