Wednesday, November 8, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Virtual and In-Person Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chair Naomi Wilson, Vice Chair Marvin Cooks, Secretary Andee Walton, Commissioner Kristi Coyne Commissioner Kimberly Ellefson, and Commissioner Carlos Lugo

Members Absent: Commissioner Laura Badeaux, Commissioner Noemi Cagatin-Porter, Commissioner Connie Ladenburg, and Commissioner Nikki Singh

Staff Present: Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director (NCS)

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks at 6:19
   • Meeting chaired by Chair Wilson.
   • Roll call.

2. Approval of the November agenda at 6:20
   • Amend order of agenda items 5 and 6.
   • Motioned by Commissioner Coyne to approve, seconded by Secretary Walton. Approved unanimously.

3. Review/Approval of October minutes at 6:22
   • Motioned by Commissioner Coyne to approve minutes and Commissioner Ellefson seconded. Approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment at 6:23
   • No written public comments received.

5. Inclement Weather Update at 6:24
   • Presented by Caleb Carbone, Homeless Strategy, Systems and Services Manager.
   • Introduction to City’s response to inclement weather (not comprehensive).
     i. City works with stakeholders, such as people with lived experience, and community resources.
     ii. City is using investment dollars to increase shelter capacity (at least 170 additional beds this year!)
     iii. Cold weather = 35 degrees, with wind, rain, or colder.
   • Chair Wilson asks about storage capacity and for funding review to include consideration of additional environmental factors to be considered as inclement weather.
   • Commissioner Ellefson asks about outreach practices to make citizens aware of shelter availability.

6. Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction/Youth Development at 6:42
   • Presented by Erin Watlington, Community Resource Analyst Senior.
   • Overview of where the City sees the program going into 2024.
     i. Comprehensive gang model renamed to destigmatize affected youth.
     ii. Target population: youth and young adults 12-30 years old that are at high risk for crime and human trafficking, and Tacoma residents.
City of Tacoma
Human Services Commission

iii. Emphasis on youth in Hilltop, East Tacoma, and west of the Tacoma Mall.
iv. Funding history and where funding has been going since 2022.
   • Vicky McLaurin clarifies that the portion of grant money allotted is $179,000.
   • Chair Wilson asks about outreach to organizations to encourage them to apply for funding; asks for outcomes are desired from funding youth and young adult violence-reduction services; asks for feedback for HSC members as reviewers of these applications; asks for limitations of outreach within population.
   • Secretary Walton asks about integrative efforts with the Criminal Justice system to reduce youth and young adult violence.

7. Review and Excuse Absences at 7:20
   • Commissioner Ladenburg and Commissioner Badeaux.
   • Commissioners Coyne motions to excuse both. Secretary Walton seconds. All in favor.

8. Good of the Order at 7:21
   • Chair Wilson requests informal poll to assure quorum for December meeting.
   • Vicky McLaurin to meet with Chair Wilson to discuss Commissioners with more than three unexcused absences.

9. Closing Comments at 7:28
   • HSC Youth seat to be appointed rather than interviewed. More information to follow.
   • Chair Wilson adjourns the meeting at 7:28