



## Human Services Commission Minutes

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**City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave, Pleasanton, CA  
June 1, 2022 - 7 p.m.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairperson Carlucci.

### Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

### Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Mary Jane Bedegi, Melanie Hayes, Susan Hayes, Kirstin Litz, Patty Powers, Janeen Rubino-Brumm and Chairperson Joe Carlucci

Commissioners Absent: Meera Parikh.

Staff Present: Jay Ingram, Recreation Manager; and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

### **AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

None.

### **MINUTES**

- 1. Approve regular meeting minutes of May 4, 2022.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Susan Hayes, seconded by Commissioner Powers, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2022 meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

#### **2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Presentations**

Axis Community Health Presentation, Sue Compton, CEO and Liz Perez-Howe, Incoming CEO

Mr. Ingram introduced Sue Compton advising that after a number of years, fifteen of which were as the CEO of Axis Community Health Sue would be retiring on Friday, June 3 and Liz Perez-Howe would be taking over as CEO. He thanked Ms. Compton for all she has accomplished and indicated he has enjoyed collaborating with her.

Ms. Compton commented on the funding received by Axis projects for some of their projects and then introduced Dr. Lauren Phillips advising that she oversees the Pleasanton School grant program. Dr. Phillips provided background information about the program and advised that it is a terrific program that covers a vast number of different topics that includes stress and coping skills for middle school students and for high school students helpful information relating to social challenges and skills, setting boundaries, healthy relationships, coping strategies, and learning perspectives about others.

Dr. Phillips discussed the number of students that had taken advantage of this program noting that during the past two quarters middle school students have not been participating to the same extent as previously and work is being undertaken to determine the reason.

Commissioner Rubino-Brumm discussed with Dr. Phillips where meetings take place with the students and was informed that because of the pandemic the meeting have been conducted virtually.

Chairperson Carlucci had questions about the issue with middle school students not participating and was advised by Dr. Phillips that it was because the original core group of students participating in the program had moved on to high school. Commissioner Susan Hayes suggested the students who had moved on to high school be contacted and asked what help they thought could be provided to encourage middle school students to participate.

Commissioner Powers questioned Dr. Phillips on whether providing the meetings virtually would continue and was advised that it was something the group would be looking into.

Commissioner Bedegi asked for information about the main focus of the program and was informed by Dr. Phillips that is to provide support to students, many of whom have been referred to the program by teachers.

Dr. Phillips informed Chairperson Carlucci that the program was entitled The Wellness Group and agreed that a “jazzier” name for the program might encourage more students to be interested and participate.

Ms. Compton advised commissioners that the program started at the beginning of the pandemic which is likely a reason it has been difficult to get students involved. She noted that while the number of participants is not huge the students involved have been helped and the program is a useful resource for school counselors.

Moving on to the Axis Bridge Program – Mental Health Urgent Care Program, Ms. Compton advised that this is a program for people having difficulties and do not know where to turn for

help. The program is available five days a week from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. and includes the services of a licensed therapist and case manager.

Commissioners were advised by Ms. Compton that the intention of the program is to fill a gap until a longer-term solution can be reached and to date over eight hundred families have been served in the program that provides psychiatric assistance and medication.

Ms. Compton advised that funding for this program was provided by the three Tri-Valley cities, but then Alameda County came forward to fund the program and now there is federal interest in the program is moving forward to also provide funding.

Ms. Compton advised Chairperson Carlucci that referrals for the program were coming from a number of entities that included Stanford Valley Care Hospital who are referring three to four people a day. Axis is also working closely with the Pleasanton Police Department the three school districts.

Chairperson Carlucci asked about the services of therapists and what services are still needing to be provided. Ms. Compton commented on there being a great need for another therapist and that Axis is in communication with schools that are producing therapists.

Commissioner Bedegi was informed by Ms. Compton that the Bridge program serves all age groups from children to seniors. She noted that they have found during the pandemic that people prefer to be provided tele-health in their behavioral health needs and it sometimes is hard to provide in-person therapy because people are required to wear masks.

Ms. Compton thanked members of the Human Services Commission and city staff for all they have done to help Axis programs. She then introduced Liz Perez-Howe, the next CEO for Axis and the person who has been behind the vaccine care program provided by Axis.

Ms. Howe informed commissioners that she been working with Axis for nine years and was looking forward in trying to fill the big CEO shoes left behind by Sue Compton. She indicated she was grateful to Ms. Compton for her mentorship and looks forward to working with members of the commission.

Chairperson Carlucci indicated he had had an opportunity to meet Ms. Howe at the recent Axis 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event and was sure she would be of immense value to Axis. He thanked Ms. Compton for all she has done for Axis and helping to inspire him, noting that the commission is proud to be able to provide support to Axis.

### **3. Public Comment from the audience**

None

## **MATTERS FOR THE COMMISSION'S REVIEW/ACTION/INFORMATION**

#### **4. Review and Comment on the Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for January – March 2022**

Mr. Ingram reviewed with commissioners the January – March 2022 Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report.

Chairperson Carlucci thanked Mr. Ingram for providing the review, there were no comments from commissioners.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Commissioner Rubino-Brumm thanked staff for all their challenging work in providing information. Commissioner Bedegi especially thanked Mr. Ingram for all that he does.
- B. Commissioner Rubino-Brumm provided information about a “Fun Run” event planned for the opening day of the County Fair by Sunflower Hill.
- C. Chairperson Carlucci provided details on his attendance of the May 17, 2022 City Council Meeting, thanking them for supporting the commission recommendation for FY 2022/23.
- D. Commissioner Susan Hayes provided Information about Tri-Valley Non-Profit Alliance’s Third Annual “Wine It Up” event - June 26, 2022, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The cost is \$50.
- E. Commissioner Rubino-Brumm discussed the Goodness Village BBQ June 18, 2022 event.
- F. Commissioner Bedegi commented on the recent “Hike for Hope” event.

#### **COMMISSION REPORTS**

None.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

To be decided.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** August 3, 2022