



Human Services Commission Minutes

Zoom Webinar – Pleasanton, CA November 3, 2021 - 7 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairperson Rubino-Brumm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Mary Jane Bedegi, Susan Hayes, Kelsey Lem, Meera Parikh, Patty Powers, and Chairperson Rubino-Brumm.

Commissioners Absent: Joe Carlucci, Harshkumar Gohil and Mike Sedlak.

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

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Mr. Ingram informed commissioners that Commissioner Gohil had resigned from the commission due to increased obligations and Commissioner Sedlak had also resigned since he had recently moved out-of-state.

MINUTES

1. **Approve regular meeting minutes of October 6, 2021.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Powers, seconded by Commissioner Bedegi, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2021. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions / Awards / Recognitions

Presentation from Open Heart Kitchen

Mr. Ingram introduced Heather Greaux from Open Heart Kitchen (OHK) and asked her to provide a report on services and programs the organization is providing.

Ms. Greaux advised that the past year has been challenging for Open Heart Kitchen because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the organization is extremely grateful to the City of Pleasanton staff for helping them to continue being able to provide services.

Commissioners were provided information about the food distribution program that took place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds but was forced to move with the County Fair plans for October. The City of Pleasanton came forward with a temporary site at the Pleasanton Senior Center, which has been followed by a site provided by WorkDay that will be big enough for them to offer fresh produce and a storage area.

Ms. Greaux advised that approximately 566 households are served each week, with 40% of those being from Pleasanton. The program is operated by a team of volunteers and staff members with an established motto of "Team Work Makes the Dream Work."

Ms. Greaux provided a PowerPoint presentation showing volunteers at work and involvement in the program not only with Open Heart Kitchen but the Alameda County Food Bank, Tri-Valley Haven, and CityServe. Commissioners were informed that the bulk of the food for the program was being provided by the Alameda County Food Bank who also works closely with OHK to assist them with CalFresh applications and doing outreach for CalFresh. With the help of Tri-Valley Haven groceries have been provided to over 3,300 households for a total of over 11,000 distributions, and CityServe has assisted in connecting with homeless individuals and households facing multiple issues. Ms. Greaux added that the goal is to be able to continue offering food distribution and eventually establishing a regional food storage facility.

In commenting on the Vineyard project Ms. Greaux provided information about this being a unified vision and collaboration with the owner being the Housing Consortium of the East Bay. She advised that OHK will be one of the anchor tenants for the project providing kitchen operations.

Commissioners reviewed with Ms. Greaux a PowerPoint presentation and slides of the project. She discussed areas and services to be provided, offices and conference room sites, community room, laundry and shower facilities, meeting rooms, overnight shelter rooms, kitchen, and the 24 units of permanent supportive housing. She commented on the importance of agencies working together and this project being a way of addressing the larger housing crisis.

Chairperson Rubino-Brumm thanked Ms. Greaux for her presentation.

Commissioner Hayes questioned whether the WorkDay food distribution site was close to the BART and bus locations making it easy for residents who do not drive to be able to access. Ms. Greaux advise it was accessible and in fact people were riding bicycles to the site.

Ms. Greaux advised that the WorkDay location is really meant to be an emergency location to provide service during issues with COVID and is not something OHK imagines to be an ongoing project and the hope is to transition to a facility that would support many local pantries. She advised that OHK has been trying to identify partners for setting up a new distribution or pantry in Pleasanton.

Commissioner Powers questioned when serving meals at the Senior Center would be resumed. Ms. Greaux advised that meals are being provided for people to drive and pick up. The plan is to get through the upcoming flu season and hopefully be able to get back to congregate meals later, but much will depend on when the city moves forward to allow facilities to be opened.

Chairperson Rubino-Brumm stated that people were looking forward to when volunteers can return and work at facilities and the Sage Café will be reopened. She thanked Ms. Greaux for presenting her reports to the commission

3. Public comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda

None.

MATTERS FOR THE COMMISSION'S REVIEW/ACTION/INFORMATION

4. Review and Approve the 2022 Human Services Commission Meeting Schedule

Mr. Ingram reviewed with commissioners the 2022 Human Services Commission Meeting Schedule and comment on issues they may have with any of the dates.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hayes, seconded by Commissioner Powers, to accept the 2022 Human Services Commission Meeting Schedule as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Bedegi, Hayes, Lem, Parikh, Powers, and Chairperson Rubino-Brum

NOES: Commissioner Carlucci.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

5. Review and Comment on the Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for July – September 2022

Mr. Ingram reviewed with commissioners the Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for July-September 2021 and asked the commission to comment on any potential changes.

Commissioner Bedegi liked the report and felt it provided good, detailed information on the scope of services provided. She especially liked to see the reporting on upward trends.

Chairperson Rubin-Brumm commented on the number of new card holders for the library and confirmed with Mr. Ingram that this report goes out to the public. Mr. Ingram advised that this is one way of reporting what is being done by the department.

Chairperson Rubino-Brumm discussed the commissions previous idea of developing a communication plan and wondered if this was something that should be considered for the next year. Mr. Ingram advised this was something staff is addressing.

MATTERS INITIATED BY THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Bedegi commented on a Pleasanton City Survey she reviewed and congratulated city staff on all the work accomplished during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Hayes provided details about the upcoming Tri-Valley Non-Profit Alliance event on December 7 and encouraged members of the commission to attend.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Mr. Ingram suggested this section on the regular agenda will be discussed at the next commission meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 1, 2021