

February 4, 2019 Observer Report

Committee: Human Services

Observer: Eileen Lowery

Meeting began: 6:13 p.m.

Meeting Ended: 8:25 p.m.

Committee Members: Alderpersons Rue Simmons (chair), Fiske, Revelle and Fleming. Absent: Braithwaite.

Staff Present: K. Richardson, N. Whyte, DuRose (atty), L. Hemingway, D. Cook, K. Brown, S. Johnson, K. Jensen, W. Bokiewictz

Media Present: EvanstonNow, Roundtable, NU, FB video

Citizen Comment: Six citizens had comments. Karen Courtright, representing the Citizen Police Complaint Assessment Committee, shared that the committee has been following up with Chief Cook following provided recommendations at the end of last year, which included a number of no/low cost recommendations. Three citizens requested that the city retain a dog beach, one citizen complimented the HH4 Apprenticeship Program Proposal and the HH7 Implementation Strategy update.

Brie Noel made a presentation of a \$100 check to the committee for the Housing and Homelessness Commission (HHC). Brie, a young resident from the 5th Ward, raised the funds at her bow-making fundraiser. Her mother is Renee Phillips who serves on the HHC.

(HH1) 2019 Special Events in City Parks Staff recommends approval of the 2019 special events proposed in city parks, contingent upon compliance of all requirements as set forth by the Special Event Policy & Guidelines. This year's calendar includes one new park event (1 Million Steps for OCD Walk). *Mr. Hemingway reviewed packet materials including the lists of park and lakefront events, the permit instructions and policies and the new application for new "1 Million Steps for OCD Walk." He responded to questions: if organizers fail to pay their fees, they are not given a spot on the next year's event calendar; at this time there is not a refuse container offered for compost, the staff will look into feasibility; music speakers are place to face away from surrounding residences.*

For Action

(HH2) Resolution 15-R-19, Designating the Portion of Church Street between Hartrey Avenue and Grey Avenue with the Honorary Street Name Sign, "Tina Lifford Way" The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Board recommend adoption of Resolution 15-R-19, naming the portion of Church Street between Hartrey Avenue and Grey Avenue with the Honorary Street Name Sign, "Tina Lifford Way" *Ald. Rue Simmons put forth the resolution which passed unanimously.*

(HH3) Resolution 16- R-19 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into Twenty Four Month Lease Agreements for Music Studio Space at the Gibbs Morrison Cultural Center Staff recommends approval of Resolution 16-R-19 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for twenty-four (24) month lease terms with Avengerz Music Group LLC *Ald. Rue Simmons put forth the resolution. Passed unanimously (Ald. Rue Simmons abstained.)*

(HH4) Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse Pathways to Union Apprenticeship Program Proposal The Minority, Women, and Evanston Based Enterprise (MWEBE) Development Committee recommends approval of the proposed Pathways to Union Apprenticeship Program with Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse (ERW) and Minority Business Consortium (MBC). It is recommended Human Services Committee approve allocations of \$40,000 during 2019 which will provide strong pathway for six (6) Evanston residents to access union apprenticeship programs. *Anne Nicklin, Director of Workforce Training and Deconstruction Services at Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse, presented an overview of the program that in partnership with other community groups provides required certificate trainings and support for up to 30 residents. Proposal passed unanimously.*

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(HH5) Hillard Heinze Report Police Chief Cook will discuss with committee the finding of the report. *Chief Cook detailed findings and identified department steps to review practices and plans to address concerns 1) Consistent supervisory staffing - will evaluate supervisor assignments in relation to organizational goals 2) Relatively large command staff – are reviewing supervisory ratio across divisions within the department 3) Organizational structure refined to capture efficiencies – ideas included combining supervisory roles across divisions and cross-training detectives to be certified as Juvenile officers 4) Exploit technology more fully - will review processes to fully automate data collection, case and staff management systems and ongoing improvement processes. 5) A formal strategic plan for community outreach – will formulate an improved plan for community engagement and communication 6) Conduct a staffing study – propose a study to review staffing, services and organizational goals for staffing decisions.*

(HH6) Police Complaint Assessment Committee Recommendations *Chief Cook is reviewing recommendations and is conducting ongoing conversations with the committee.*

(HH7) Climate Action and Resilience Plan Implementation Strategy (2019-2020) Update Staff proposes the implementation strategy cover two calendar years, 2019 and 2020 and a new two year implementation strategy be developed every two years. *Mr. Jensen provided the 2-year plan summary. The total 2-year determined cost to implement the strategy is \$839,000.00 with identified grant funding for \$260,000.00. Several actions still need cost estimates, but the majority of those will take place in 2020, which allows staff additional time to identify funding and develop estimates. 28 actions identified for 2019 and 15 for 2020 for a total of 43 actions. Thirteen of those actions have already been initiated or are ongoing and progress is being made towards their completion. Community partners include: Institute for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern (ISEN), Evanston Development Cooperative, Citizens' Greener Evanston, Elevate Energy, Center for Neighborhood Technology, Evanston Community Foundation, Chicago Community Trust, EvanSTEM, LakeDance and Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse.*

(HH8) Discussion of lakefront special events with no connection to Evanston nonprofit *Ald. Fiske asked that Mr. Hemingway and staff look into whether event organizers identify an Evanston resident to make money from fundraisers or if in fact the funds raised go to the nonprofits; will report back to the committee.*

(HH9) Youth and Young Adult Division Update *Mr. Brown and Ms. Johnson reviewed a draft of the Division Status Update covering the last 6 years. Outcomes include: the programs (not including MSYEP) have served 1874 clients, 59% younger than 18; the MSYEP program has steadily increased the number of youth employed from 160 in 2012 to 620 in 2018; during the 6 year period the Building Career Pathways to Sustainable Employment Program has had 163 participated of which 60% were placed in long term employment; in the NU Skilled Trades Program (2014-2017) - of the 24 participants, 20 were hired into long-term employment, 18 at NU. A final report will be issued.*

(HH10) Update on Dog Beach *Ald. Fiske asked for the update. Mr. Hemingway provided a historical perspective of use of the park, with a peak of 1000 tokens issued with \$60,000 revenue to the last year (2017) with revenue of \$40,000, changes in location of the park, etc. He reviewed information from the Great Lakes Commission website https://www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/dashboard/GLD_HTML5.html that graphs the water levels from the early 1900's to today. Mr. Hemingway and staff are continuing to look for alternatives.*

V. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION *Ald. Rue Simmons thanked the children of Family Focus for their handwritten notes thanking the committee for sending them to a Black History performance on Feb 14.*