

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 27, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Human Services Committee Meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 25 West Main Street, Auburn, WA.

Committee Members present: Jason Berry, Bette Van Gasken, JoAnne Walters, Lela Brugger, Maryelyn Scholz

Committee Members not present: Barbara Derda

Staff present: Director of Administration Michael Hursh, Community Services Assistant Emily J. Pearson and Veterans & Human Services Coordinator Erica Azcueta

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Member Lela Brugger moved to accept the March 23, 2015 minutes; Member Maryelyn Scholz seconded the motion. All Committee Members were in favor of adopting the minutes as submitted.

The March 23, 2015 minutes were approved.

III. AGENDA

• Festivals/Summer update

Michael Hursh reported on the Auburn Days celebration scheduled for August 14-16. It will include a parade with the possibility of a car show in conjunction with the Farmers Market. Beginning next year the City will take over vendors and planning of the event. Organizers will seek feedback on what works and what doesn't, with a focus to be reflective of how Auburn has evolved and what it is now – its current population, ethnic diversity, etc. Chair Jason Berry noted that 55% of students in the Auburn School District are now students of color.

Jason Berry asked if the City has any relationship to the Emerald Downs 3-on-3 basketball tournament this summer, there is but Mr. Hursh said the relationship is not a formal one beyond promotion.

Member Brugger mentioned the downtown Art Walk & Wine Tasting event taking place on Friday, May 8 along Main Street.

Mr. Hursh spoke to the group about supporting the Latin American Cultural Celebration on Sunday, September 13. Ivan Rodriguez is the organizer and would like to incorporate a parade on Main Street. Attendance of 8,000+ is expected; the community- and family-friendly festival does not allow alcohol. Over 80 bands are expected to try out to perform at the function. This will be a huge event in the City, and we should start to think about any areas/divisions that have had issues connecting with the Latino community and use this opportunity to build relationships with them.

Member JoAnne Walters asked about parking issues and street closures pertaining to large events. Mr. Hursh expressed a need to coordinate a single application process for organizations that want to apply to festivals, parades, etc. within the city. City divisions that would best

coordinate would be Police, Permitting, Public Works/Rights-of-Way, Parks, Multimedia/Public Affairs and Emergency Management.

- **Homelessness Review**

Director Hursh announced that the Mayor is putting together a Task Force on Homelessness. The community is having these conversations; the City very much recognizes the issues and we want our stances to be visible. An outside facilitator may be an option to assist in policy direction. In addition to the typical homeless citizen, there is a large car-homeless population as well as many oversized families that are living together in inadequately-sized multifamily units, mobile homes, etc. Typically the Police Department deals with the same individuals on a frequent basis. They're often trespassed but don't really want to leave where they're staying. The youth/young adults seem to have the most drug, alcohol and mental health issues.

Many South King County cities (Auburn, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, Tukwila) want to see more resources for the homeless. Mr. Hursh said the North Auburn/South Kent area near bus lines would be an ideal location for these resources. Member Brugger reiterated the need to get other cities' mayors to form some sort of agreement.

Director Hursh distributed a copy of the draft Committee to End Homelessness policy plan. The group talked about the importance of criminalizing poor behavior, but not criminalizing the poor.

- **Committee**

After several years on the Committee, Chuck Booth has resigned. Barbra Menendez has expressed some interest and will be invited to attend the next Human Services Committee meeting in May.

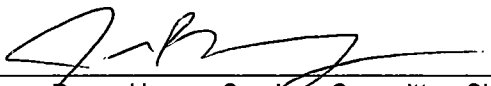
IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

APPROVED THE 22nd day of June, 2015



Jason Berry, Human Services Committee Chair



Michael Hursh, Director of Administration