

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Economic and Community Development– May 2, 2014, Noon, 3rd Floor Executive Conference Room, City Hall

Committee Members present: Michelle De La Isla, Karen Hiller, and Nathan Schmidt

Staff Present: Mary Feighny, Deputy City Attorney; Brad Reiff, Interim Housing and Neighborhood Development (HND) Director; Corrie Wright, HND Manager; Rachelle Vega-Retana, HND Accounting Specialist II; Nickie Lee, Budget Manager; Shawn Maisberger, Assistant to the City Manager; Amber Cardona, Council Office Assistant III; Ginny Burghart, Council Office Manager

Agenda Item

- **Election of Chair**

Councilmembers Karen Hiller and Nathan Schmidt elected Councilmember Michelle De La Isla as chair of the committee.

- **2015 social services and citywide contracted services grants – discuss and establish process for:**
 - a. Reviewing applications (including determining whether to engage the assistance of expert advisors)**
 - b. Finalizing scoring**
 - c. Developing a funding recommendation for consideration by the City Council**

Councilmember Hiller stated it was not the idea to actually go into applications today. The staff team has reviewed the applications and done some work for the Committee and has some recommendations on how they might proceed. Corrie Wright stated there were 32 applications total. She provided a handout listing three options the Committee could choose from to help with the review process with Councilmember Schmidt suggesting a fourth option.

Brad Reiff suggested another option. The first meeting could focus on Contracted Services. It will not necessarily be for presentations, but to review the applications and ask questions. The second meeting will focus on the top 13 ranked applications. The Committee can review the applications, scorings, and ask questions. The third meeting will focus on the remaining 13 applications.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to proceed with review of the applications as suggested by Mr. Reiff. Councilmember Hiller seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Councilmember Hiller stated she felt confident with how staff handled the rankings and process and does not feel an expert advisor should be involved. Councilmembers Schmidt and De La Isla agreed.

Councilmember Schmidt reminded the Committee, especially with the third meeting, their recommendation to the Council was a 5% increase from last year. They can also recommend more or less funding. Chairwoman De La Isla stated they have to consider that the Finance Department has already started the budget process and changing the funding amount could be highly disruptive.

It was agreed the three 2-hour sessions will take place May 12, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; May 14, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and May 15, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Nickie Lee stated City Manager Jim Colson requests the Committee discuss and review funding for Downtown Topeka, Inc. Committee members agreed that could be done at the May 12 session.

Councilmember Hiller moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0

Meeting adjourned 12:42 p.m.