MEETING MINUTES
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, August 6, 2012
7:30 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Council Chambers

Members Present: Ald. Fiske, Grover, Tendam

Members Absent: Ald. Braithwaite, Holmes

Staff Present: Nicola Whyte, Joseph McRae, Douglas Gaynor, Evonda Thomas, Commander Aretha Hartley,

Presiding Member: Ald. Tendam

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Chairman Tendam called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of JUNE 4, 2012
It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the June 4, 2012 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved 3-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Review of Police Complaints
No questions from the committee

Update on the Library
Karen Lyons, Director of the Library summarized her report to the committee. There are 341 libraries in Illinois, of which 161 are city operated and are funded by property taxes.

- The library is currently developing next year’s budget and extra meetings are scheduled and are open to the public for input.
- Ms. Lyons is actively exploring grants and soliciting donations to expand services
- Keeping the residents informed on library services
- The Library Board members are appointed by the Mayor. The current board is comprised of members with a great mix of skills and represents a wide variety of the community.

Ald. Grover asked for an updated profile of the present board members.
ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Township of Evanston July 2012 Monthly Bills

Ald Grover asked for clarification on Yes We Will Marketing which is a local company that participated in the Evanston 50/50 program and also an upcoming training listed on the bills list.

Assessor Bonnie Wilson report

- Between June 3rd and August 3rd of 2012 the Assessor’s office facilitated property tax corrections for 128 residents with a savings in the amount of $208,429.
- The Cook County Board of Review is open for 2012 assessment appeals, appeals can be made on-line at www.cookcountyboardofreview.com or call the Assessor’s office.
- Outreach meetings are scheduled for residents at the end of August to learn how to appeal assessments.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Township of Evanston July 2012 monthly bills. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 3-0.

Update on Harley Clarke Mansion

Joseph McCrae, Deputy City Manager, updated the committee on the Request for Interest which received four replies of individuals who are interested in either leasing or purchasing the Harley Clarke Mansion. Deputy City Manager McCrae requested approval to move onto the next step which is a Request for Proposal (RFP) and also to form a subcommittee comprised of two Human Services Committee members and a City Manager’s office staff to oversee the process.

Ald. Fiske pointed out the RFP did not reference the Harley Clarke Mansion is an Evanston Landmark property and any changes to the exterior is subject to review prior by the Evanston Preservation Commission. Also, a sub-committee should not be formed but instead present the information to the Human Services Committee for review before presenting to City Council.

It is the opinion of Ald. Tendam that some land will probably be included in the lease agreement.

It was moved and seconded to issue the Request for Proposal to the four respondents. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 3-0.

Recommendation for Y.O.U. Mural on Central Street

Jessica Baum and Olivia Chandrasekhar seniors at Evanston Township High School this fall gave the committee a summary of their proposal; they will be facilitating this mural project. Ms. Baum and Chandrasekhar hopes another group of students will take up the reins and continue beautifying Evanston when they go off to college.

It was moved and seconded to approve the recommendation for Y.O.U. Mural on Central Street. A voice vote was taken and the motion was passed 3-0.

Citizen Comment:

Ms. Betty Sue Ester invited the residents to the Citizens Network of Protection meeting on August 21 at Fleetwood Jourdain Community Center at 1655 Foster Street. The discussion will be the Evanston Police Office of Profession Standard complaint process.
Junad Rizzki is not in favor of the lease proposal for the Harley Clarke Mansion. He felt the pending occupant would require parking spaces which would encroach upon the park land adjacent to the property, thereby preventing the resident from enjoying the surrounding parkland.

Allison Stark of newly elected Chair of the Mental Health Board and Kim Fisher Vice-Chair introduced themselves.

Madelyn Ducre has concerns
- Regarding NSP2
- The people who drive around and retrieve items left out by residents are trying to make a living and should be left alone
- The Township assist residents that need help until they can do better and it is her opinion the Township should be left alone
- Dodge and Foster construction has left a mess and
- The flaggers on Dodge are not visible to drivers.

COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURNMENT
It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicola Whyte
Executive Secretary, Health Department