

**CITY COUNCIL  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
Monday, December 5, 2005  
Civic Center - Room 2402  
7:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Aldermen Bernstein, Holmes, Jean-Baptiste, Moran, and Tisdahl

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kathleen Brenniman, Julia Carroll, Vince Jones, Frank Kaminski, Sam Pettineo, Doug Gaynor, Bob Dornecker, Nancy Flowers, Harvey Saver, Paula Haynes, Christina Ferraro, Jay Terry, Audrey Trotsky

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rosemary Jean-Paul, Evanston Township; Sue Cantor, Mental Health Board; (See attached list of Attendees)

**PRESIDING:** Alderman Bernstein

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Alderman Bernstein called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2005, MEETING**

**The minutes of the November 7, 2005 meeting were called and unanimously approved (5-0).**

**III. SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mr. Terry recalled for the past 16 ½ years he's been staff to this committee and with him every step of the way helping us get out of jams and advising us where to go has been Kathy Brenniman of the Law Department. While the lawyers to the other committees specialize in issues such as zoning and business matters a sampling of what Ms. Brenniman has done over the last 16 ½ years has included; food service regulation, Township law, Evanston Police powers, University Police powers, bed and breakfasts, group homes, nursing homes, tattoo parlors, fair housing, Noyes Center leases, Library internet use, Americans with Disabilities Act, Immigration Law, smoking and tobacco use, and ground feeding of the animals. This is Ms. Brenniman's last Human Services Committee meeting and he wanted to note for the record all the great work she has done for the committee and publicly thank her on behalf of everyone. (Ms. Brenniman was applauded by the committee members as well as all in attendance.) Ms. Brenniman is retiring on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January and January 9<sup>th</sup> will be her last City Council meeting.

**IV. CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 2005 TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BILLS**

Alderman Bernstein noted the lawsuit with respect to the Township Assessor has now been decided in the Township's favor and assumes there will be final bill from the legal counsel.

Alderman Bernstein called for any discussion regarding the November 2005 Township bills. Alderman Tisdahl questioned the Township's purchase of flowers to which Ms. Jean-Paul responded they were purchased for the funeral of the mother of property owner. **Hearing no further questions, Alderman Moran moved approval of the November 2005 Township bills, seconded by Alderman Jean-Baptiste and unanimously approved (5-0).**

**V. CONSIDERATION OF DISPOSITION OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS**

Chief Kaminski reported a new process that was discussed a few meetings ago was tried and which he personally thought worked very well. Three members of his Advisory Board participated in this new process. The citizens reviewing the complaints spent a great deal of time on each complaint and came up with the reported conclusions. The Chief said he would like to continue this system for the next year and then evaluate it.

Alderman Holmes understood that members did not want their names published in a report and wondered if there would be a chance to get some individual feedback from them to find out what they thought about the process. Chief Kaminski thought that could be done after they get a few complaints through the system.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste said it did not seem the Advisory Committee would be taking responsibility for any decisions as they are not empowered to do that, therefore, this is almost a second opinion. What if they decide the contrary to what the Chief's view is? Chief Kaminski said the citizens add an extra layer of analysis giving him the perspective from the Command staff, the Office of Professional Standards, and from those three citizens. There may be some feedback that could change his mind before he made a decision. Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked what information do the citizen's review, to which Chief Kaminski responded all records, except they do not interview complainants. Commander Pettineo

and Sergeant Jamraz are there to answer any questions about the investigations. The citizens get the facts of the case and make an independent decision. Alderman Jean-Baptiste disagreed that it is an independent decision; they get to review what you have given them. Chief Kaminski said the investigations are done by OPS, they put together all of the facts, statements, and information of the case which is not slanted or guided in any direction. The supervisors then make an independent review of those facts and now a group of independent citizens also make an assessment of this information.

Alderman Bernstein asked Alderman Jean-Baptiste if he is suggesting that the citizens should be part of the fact finding process. Alderman Jean-Baptiste responded it's a good thing that citizens are involved in helping get a second opinion, but it's a second opinion of what the Police Department has presented what the facts are. He is not saying it's a bad thing for them to be involved but it is not an independent review. Alderman Bernstein said it's never a bad thing for citizens to be involved, his question to Alderman Jean-Baptiste is, is he proposing their involvement should be in an earlier stage, something which the Chief has to be asked whether is appropriate. Alderman Jean-Baptiste said the Chief has already said Union rules and regulations would not allow that to happen at this particular point in time. If the supervisor in charge is reviewing complaints against his department would he be totally objective. When a department is reviewing complaints against itself the tenancy would be not to be as objective as you can be. The Chief is going in the right direction but we should not characterize it as if we have an independent citizen review. We asked for the national format of doing that kind of a review and hopes in the future we can focus some attention on how that's done in other parts of the country and how we can improve our methodology. Alderman Holmes noted a few months ago the Human Relations Commission sent some information on projects around the country.

**Alderman Moran moved to accept the conclusion on C.R. #05-05.**

Alderman Jean-Baptiste noted in C.R. #05-05 a woman, small in stature, was left by the cemetery, past midnight, and allegedly asked the officer not to leave her there. She also indicated she was approached by some young men. Her story did not indicate she was offered a ride to the Police Station and he is not suggesting the officers have to be caretakers in every situation. Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked what the policy is in such a situation. Chief Kaminski said the officers try to make sure everybody is safe. In this situation the officer did everything reasonable that he could do, offering a ride to the station, even stopping a cab for her but she was on the cell phone and said her ride was going to be there in a minute. The boy friend was arrested for DUI and she was not allowed to have the car. The officer's version and the fact that we tried to get the complainant to come in a number of times to verify any of facts, is why the disposition was SOL. The complaint was dropped but if she ever comes back we'll reinstate the case. We could not move further due to lack of any other information to set up an investigation even after certified letters and personal calls asking her to come in.

Alderman Moran thought it is important for people to understand that we do have a well organized process for citizens' complaints and our system works well. Once a complaint is lodged a process needs to be followed if the complaint is not pursued it frustrates the process because we want people to have an opportunity to make a case that there has been police misconduct. The Chief himself reviews all the information and delegates people in OPS to do the investigative work.

Alderman Tisdahl remarked that she is friend of the aunt involved in this case and talked with both the aunt and the niece. She explained our process and that speaking at City Council was not following up on the complaint process. Alderman Tisdahl further explained the most we would be able to do was determine that there is a policy that you don't leave young women alone at night unless they insist that they have a ride. This was understood but the complainant did not choose to follow this up and this conclusion is the only possible result.

Alderman Bernstein remarked this woman did come to a Council meeting and have a conversation with the Aldermen with respect to her rendition of the facts, which are diametrically opposed to what the officer's rendition was. The reason we're talking about involving citizens in the fact finding process is there is a sense among some folks that they're not going to get a fair shake so why bother. For the record he does not think that happens and believes there was a statement from everyone on this committee that we have great faith in this Police Chief. Alderman Moran added when the Chief of Police makes a personal phone call to a complainant to please take advantage of an opportunity to come in and talk to him that's an important message for people to come away with from a discussion like this. He would not want anyone to walk away from this meeting thinking this is an empty process and a person cannot get the attention in a meritorious circumstance to have the Police Department acknowledge that there was misconduct, if indeed there was misconduct. He does not want people to feel, why bother but they should act consistently with the notion they can come here and will be heard and when the facts merit it their complaints will be upheld. Alderman Bernstein emphasized not all complaints are judgments for the police officers, but this case is SOL to reinstate and if the complainant wants to come the case can be reopened.

**Hearing no further discussion, Alderman Moran's motion for acceptance of C.R. #05-05 was recalled, motion unanimously accepted (5-0). Alderman Bernstein called for further discussion of C.R. #05-05, hearing none, Alderman Moran moved for acceptance of C.R. #05-07, seconded by Alderman Tisdahl, and unanimously accepted (5-0).**

Alderman Bernstein noted there were two allegations of complaints against the Police Department and 124 letters of commendation for the department. We have an outstanding Police Department and a great Commander. Chief Kaminski said he will continue with the additional process, submit a report after a year and have the people on the Advisory Committee, if they will, come and talk with the committee. Alderman Jean-Baptiste suggested at some future date we put on the agenda some of the best practices being used throughout the country. Alderman Bernstein thanked Chief Kaminski and Commander Pettineo for their attendance.

## **VI. CONSIDERATION OF MENTAL HEALTH BOARD FUNDING ALLOCATION**

**Sue Cantor, Chairperson of the Evanston Mental Health Board, introduced Board members Jane Grover, Carol Sittler, Randy Walker and Assistant Director of Mental Health Services, Harvey Saver.** Ms. Cantor proceeded to present a brief summary of the Board's report. In November 2005 they adopted recommendations for the allocation of \$828,900 for Human Services funding, for 25 programs and 18 agencies, which is always a difficult process. This year they started from scratch looking at the history of each agency's funding to get a fresh look at each one and try to be as fair and objective as they could in making the allocations which was also difficult as funds are down and some of the funding money has been diverted to Hurricane Relief. State funding is tighter and more restrictive and we are now dealing with fee for service for a number of the agencies, which has been quite costly to the agencies. The agencies had to spend a lot of money to restructure their billing and recording procedures which meant training their staff for these new procedures. With the new fee for service they will need to rely on unit cost and serve more people to get the same amount of funding at the unit cost than they would get from a large grantor causing problems for a number of agencies. Since 2000/2001 total available funding dollars has decreased 22% from \$1,580,000 to the current level of \$828,900. With more competition for less dollars the Board has tried a variety of ways to make the allocation process as objective as possible. The funding process followed the same process as last year where they met before the hearings to review each proposal and developed questions that were passed on to each agency so they would know the questions at the hearings. There were two separate hearings, one with United Way and the other with the agencies only the Mental Health Board funds. After the hearings the Allocation Subcommittee reviewed the information and developed recommendations (included in the committee packet) that were presented, reviewed and then adopted at the November Mental Health Board meeting.

During the year the Mental Health Board has been involved in a number of other activities besides the funding cycle. They were involved in planning and executing five community education conferences in conjunction with some other community agencies. This year the by-laws were revised, they began using an electronic quarterly report format for the agencies which provides more specific agency performance information to use specifically for measurable outcomes, and continued their liaison relationships with the agencies. They developed an evaluation tool, a rating scale to assist the Board in more objective evaluations of the agency performance, a sample copy of which was included in the packet. Board development continued on a quarterly basis and this year three presentations were made at their meetings. They worked with the Mental Health Association of the North Shore on their Street Banner Campaign, "Mental Health is for Everyone", the orange banners moving around the City since May. The coming year they want to discuss the possibility of a funding cap for the agencies where the percentage amount for any one program is capped with the hope that agencies will try to seek other sources of funding to enable the Board to free up some of our money for new ventures, etc. They may look at revising the contract policy guidelines and contract compliance. The Board will be participating in the development of the E-Plan with the Evanston Community Health Advisory Board. In late winter of 2006 a legislative forum for local state legislators regarding mental health issues is planned in conjunction with the Mental Health Association of the North Shore.

Alderman Moran wanted to thank the Mental Health Board for the clarity and reasoning they provided in their spread sheets, which he found very helpful. He also wanted to salute the Board for their efforts of seeking objectives for criteria. As we all know the money that has been available for social services has been much more limited than we would like to see which emphasizes how important it is that we spend what money we have wisely. The best way we have of doing that is to be particularly objective about outcomes, making the evaluations and ultimately making the recommendations. Everything was explained very well and the reasoning was cogent, thanks to the Mental Health Board for all their excellent work.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked for explanation of the criteria of responsiveness. Ms. Cantor said that refers to being responsive to the needs of the Evanston community and the needs of their clients. Ms. Grover added they'd like the people served by the programs they fund to be reflective of the citizenry of Evanston and to touch a number of different resident groups. Being responsive to the needs of the Evanston community is a matter of relevancy it should be the program that this community needs at this time and if there is a need for the program. We don't do community wide assessments of the needs it's more anecdotal whether or not a program is relevant. Ms. Cantor added this is their first run through and they will be revising this, but perhaps a better word than responsiveness would explain what it means.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste remarked one issue is whether it's a good representative cross section of the community, another issue is does it target the need where there's poverty. Is there a discussion among you as to whether or not the program

is relevant and responsive? Ms. Grover responded our source of that information is often the agencies themselves to which Ms. Cantor added, one source is their liaison relationships, the proposal is another source, the quarterly reports another source, also agency's activities in the community, the kinds of programs they run, the way they evaluate and change their own programs. Ms. Grover noted one of the questions frequently asked agencies is if they can describe the trend, what do they see in their field, where is the need going to be developing, how are the demographics changing and how much they respond to it.

Alderman Bernstein commented that this was Community Development's (CD) most difficult year in terms of need and dollars available to satisfy the needs and commended the Mental Health Board on an attempt to objectify the process. He does not know if you can quantify subjectivity or quality but this is a good effort and given these parameters people can hone up on them, which is most important but very difficult. He's grateful this task was taken away from the Human Services Committee.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste questioned the rationale for the elimination of Youth Job Center's funding. Ms. Grover responded this year the Board started tracking each agency's compliance with our contract whether bills and quarterly reports are submitted on time and Youth Job Center had some significant problems in these time limits. Mr. Terry commented, but not specifically to the Youth Job Center, over time one of the criticisms of our funding has been that agencies submit to two different City bodies with two different criteria and sense of expectations. Seven agencies applied to both the Mental Health Board and the CD Committee. If both the Mental Health Board and CD recommendations are accepted there will only be three agencies funded by both committees. The CD Committee did not consider funding two agencies' and one agency currently funded by the Mental Health Board will not be funded; one Mental Health Board agency currently funded by CD is not going to be funded next year by the CD Committee. Over time we have this great overlap which now appears to be the beginning of the separation of the CD Committee agencies and the Mental Health Board agencies. It is not yet totally clear but there will only be three public service agencies dually funded next year. Alderman Moran assumed when the Mental Health Board comes to this committee we vote to accept the recommendations and forward them to the Council. Mr. Terry said that has been deferred pending the City Manager's presentation of the budget. Tonight's presentation is information for the Human Services Committee; all the figures will be part of the budget process. Alderman Bernstein noted the Mental Health Board is not here for a decision, the decision will be made subject to the budget.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste questioned zeroing out Youth Job Center for procedural reasons, to which Ms. Cantor noted that was not the only reason and explained there were certain things that didn't occur. For years they've been asking this agency to show us their success, specifically how they made a difference to their clients. They have just given us numbers, how many people they've gotten jobs. What we want to know is do they keep the job, how did they do in their job training, did the training make a difference for them in being able to retain a job. Even if they didn't retain the first job did they get a second job, were they using any job coaching, etc., none of this information was presented to us even though it has been requested of them over and over. Our decisions were made, to some extent, based on all those factors. Also, our funding is for the younger group of kids and they are now concentrating a lot on older individuals for jobs. It's more of a global problem; we would not eliminate an agency's funding because they didn't follow through on the paperwork. Ms. Walker added she served on the Allocation Committee with Ms. Grover and making a cut to an agency was a decision that did not come easily. Regarding the rationale Youth Job Center kept falling far below projections of the number of youths that they annually serve. There were numerous discussions on what it would mean to cut services but they all agreed that this is a service in our community and Youth Job Center cannot be the provider. Ms. Grover noted that a couple of years ago Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked the Board how they knew that the programs they funded were working and made a difference. At that time they were in the middle of retooling their effort to get the agencies to report their outcome objectives and show how they made a difference. They found it very difficult to get good information from the Youth Job Center, although there is great anecdotal evidence that they are doing a good job for some people. They asked for more information, more objectives to show them the difference the agency is making as a whole. It was difficult for them to decide to fund an agency that hasn't met projections, doesn't look to increase its projections, but is instead looking to dramatically increase the budget for the program without increasing the staffing. Some of the numbers this year did not make sense and the Board did not have enough confidence to fund the agency. Youth Job Center will be invited back next year to ask for funding from the Mental Health Board and we would love to see them come back.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste said his comments were based on the fact that at CD they had to evaluate their presentation and does not think any of us could bring ourselves to zeroing them out because of the void that they fill. He sees Y.O.U. requested \$90,400 and you have allocated \$90,400. To him responsiveness is hard to meet and where agencies are falling short is in terms of process. He's not advocating for Youth Job Center, he's constantly challenging them be doing more. We've asked them questions about how they follow up on linear evaluations of people who come through and have tried to challenge them to deal with youth who may have some criminal background and help them in transition. This commentary will hopefully make them more responsive to the procedural requests that you have made about youth job training, skills training, job placement, etc. Youth Job Center may not be doing as well as they should be, but they are the only agency that has been consistently doing that.

Alderman Bernstein thanked the members of the Mental Health Board for their presentation and attendance at the meeting.

#### **VII. REPORT ON PRISONER REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS**

Mr. Terry noted this was a follow-up to a reference made by Alderman Jean-Baptiste asking us to look at this issue. In the memo sent to the committee four components were addressed. We looked at some of the national models, as this is nationally a very big issue that a number of cities are looking at. All the literature and the best practices have been reviewed and highlighted in the memo. The gold standard of these types of programs for communities similar to Evanston's size would be Savannah, Georgia, which has allocated a great deal of resource and has reorganized their City government along the lines of providing a different type of program. In the State of Illinois the Governor has initiated a couple of pilot programs in the Department of Corrections and established a task force that will have recommendations coming out after the first of the year in terms of what the state might be able to do new and different relative to this issue. Mr. Terry looked at a number of local initiatives as a number of agencies in town are doing something with the ex-offender population. No one is doing anything in a truly comprehensive manner. There are minimally five elements to a successful ex-offender program. The three issues ex-offenders present to a community with predominance are housing issues, employment issues and substance abuse treatment issues. For a program to be effective it has to work with all three of those issues on a comprehensive basis. All of the literature suggests there's a fourth element necessary to work with that population, begin all these services and get them ready to go while the individual is still in the Department of Corrections. By the time the person hits the streets in the community it's too late. The fifth element in all of the model programs that work is co-location of services; it's not enough to give referrals from one agency to another. The places where the different services are housed under one roof seem to work most effectively. We have a number of initiatives in Evanston and a number of issues that we have to consider if we are seriously going to develop a new type of reintegration model. He awaits your directions on how you think City government should proceed in this.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste remarked he has attended meetings with Representatives from Julie Hamos, Jan Schakowsky, and Larry Sufferdin's offices and the Minister of Ebenezer Church, that have looked into what services might be available. Fresh Start is an existing program that we fund \$5,000 to help provide this type of service. The question that motivated his proposing to look into this is we do have some people who live in Evanston who have gone to jail and will be released. He understands that this coming year we are facing a number of people being released which is why Governor Blagolovich has started some type of initiative of moving ahead of this problem in order to accommodate the needs that this release will be creating. We are not creating a situation nor are we trying to invite prisoners to Evanston, we're trying to see if we can anticipate some of the needs and see what programs are in place to take care of those who will be coming here because they live here, get some data on who will be returning to the City of Evanston and when we can begin to target our assistance to those who will be needing that assistance. We don't know the ages of the people that we will be getting and to get that done we need as much of that information that we can get. Mr. Terry said of the things he highlighted in his memo was locally no one has a good relationship with the Department of Corrections, who are the keepers of that data. Thus far he has not had much success getting any kind of local liaison from that department, we continue asking our state elected officials to intervene on our behalf. Other state departments have substance abuse, or the employment service, the One Stop, has an employment counselor whose full time job is to work with ex-offenders who said she has no relationship with the Department of Corrections. Alderman Jean-Baptiste suggested starting with Commissioner Larry Sufferdin; the Cook County Department of Corrections is directly under his governance collectively with the rest of the Board. The Governor is interested in doing something and has allocated some resources perhaps we can tap into his bank of knowledge to help us out. If we are to help people while they are inside or as soon as they get out we need to have more information. Alderman Jean-Baptiste found Mr. Terry's report gave the committee some good information and as we do strategic planning we have to confront the truth about how we manage safety in the City. We manage safety by looking at that population that may come back and may become parasitical on the community unless there is something for them; we have to find a real way of addressing this. The first point is to get the information and continue to see what the needs are, maybe the Governor has allocated some funding that can come our way to support some of the job placement and training that Fresh Start and other agencies are engaged in what we need now is information. Alderman Bernstein remarked the Police Chief has historically tried to find information from Parole Boards with respect to people coming back into the community and has not been very successful.

#### **VIII. COMMUNICATION - GAY GAMES VII SPORT & CULTURE FESTIVAL JULY 15-22, 2006**

Mr. Terry noted as a correction, the memo is asking for approval. Alderman Bernstein asked why you would need approval as this is on private property except for Crown Center. Mr. Gaynor said under the Special Events Policy adopted by the City Council any time there is over a certain number of individuals participating in an event it comes before the Human Services Committee, that number is 250. This is to advise the City Council this is going to be occurring and held at Northwestern University at Ryan Arena, the tennis courts and the big facility on campus. Minimal activity would be at the Crown Center ice rink, they will determine the need on a rental basis for practice ice.

**Alderman Moran moved approval, seconded by Alderman Tisdahl.**

**Susie Arnold, Co-chair of the Board of Directors, introduced Amy Pine, staff member and Government Relations Manager, and Nancy Harris, Sports Director.** Their organization consists of a 21 volunteer Board of Directors, and a staff of 23 housed in the Bridgeview Bank Building on Lawrence and Broadway. This will be the 25<sup>th</sup> year for Gay Games VII. The purpose is to empower people through athletics and is open to people of all ages, race, athletic and artistic ability and sexual orientation. The last event 4 years ago was in Sidney, before that it was in Amsterdam and now in the City of Chicago, and they hope Evanston is proud to be a part of this because of what this brings to the Midwest. The legacy of this event is very empowering and life changing for those who participate. They plan to host between 10,000 and 12,000 athletes and artists, 32 sports, a choral band and color guard event and cultural events. The event showcases the entire area from Evanston to Hyde Park. They have been working 5 or 6 years with governmental agency sponsorships, community groups, etc. There will be 5 sporting events at Northwestern that takes place from July 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There's a large opening ceremony at Soldier's Field, a week later the closing ceremony is at Wrigley Field. They are working with the Evanston Chamber of Commerce on marketing. The City of Chicago has assessed the economic impact of around \$80,000,000, Sidney saw \$75,000,000 there. Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked what the economic impact will be on Evanston. Ms. Pine said she did not know but the Gay Games is an event similar to the Masters World Championship, less spectators and more participants. Alderman Bernstein said once it's been approved here our name will be listed in the marketing, something invaluable which a price cannot be put upon in immediate dollars. Ms. Arnold said they also have a media kit and development materials that has resolutions adopted by local governments supporting the Gay Games and they would love to get the Aldermen interested in their honorary board of local officials who support the games which are also vehicles to publicize the City of Evanston. Alderman Tisdahl said she was happy to support the ad. Alderman Bernstein said once you're finalized with Northwestern and the City Council gives you final approval maybe a resolution of support from the City of Evanston City Council will serve both of our interests.

**Alderman Bernstein recalled the motion for committee's approval of the Gay Games VII, motion unanimously approved (5-0).** Alderman Bernstein thanked everyone for their presentation and attendance.

#### **IX. DISCUSSION ITEM: AGING/RECREATION PROGRAMS**

**Sidney Zwick** sent a memo to the committee regarding a program the Levy Center houses conducted by Northwestern University which is fee generating to Northwestern but the City is not paid for any of its rental services nor getting consideration for participation. Mr. Zwick had recommendations from a renewed Independent Senior Citizens of Evanston Organization, an organization representing the points of view from Evanston senior citizens. Northwestern is not a poor institution and in 1861 got this blanket tax exemption. We're concerned about the precedent this arrangement will make for future study groups at the Levy Center and if this proves to be successful others will follow in its wake. This program now at the Levy Center has already generated from \$3,750 to \$6,000 for the University. He was told by the Levy Advisory Board that other groups use the facilities of the Levy Center for free but does not think any of those groups use the Levy Center for fundraising or revenue generating purposes what making this situation a little different. As taxpayers who helped pay for this \$8,500,000 facility they feel they have a right to express concern about the arrangement that was made jointly by the manager of the Levy Center working with the Advisory Board. This program was not designed to serve Levy Center members; it came from the campus already filled with 24 participants. Alderman Tisdahl asked if the 24 participants were Evanstonians, information Mr. Zwick did not have. The Northwestern program does not require that you be an Evanston resident, most of them are non Evanston residents. The motivation behind the Advisory Board and Ms. Ferrara in working with Northwestern was to bring more senior citizens in contact with the Levy Center and thereby increase its use and service to the community which is a good tool. A lot of Evanston seniors go to the North Shore Senior Center for their wonderful programs and his suggestion is the best way to expand the use of the Levy Center is to improve its programs and particularly to add more cultural and educational programs. He is a graduate of Northwestern and is always reminding the administrators of their failure to live up to their proper civic responsibility to their host community and when he found out about this felt it incumbent upon him to raise this issue with the Levy Center Advisory Board and the Human Services Committee. In addition to dealing with this immediate problem he's trying to correct the arrangement and have half of the fees the 24 participants paid the University contributed to the Levy Center Life Enrichment Fund and also all 24 participants be required to become members of the Levy Center right away not at some indefinite time in the future. Northwestern has gone outside of the campus because they ran out of classroom space. They're using the Levy Center, the Georgian Hotel and the Presbyterian Home as off campus sites and the Levy Center has free parking. The participants on campus, in addition to the \$500 a year they have to pay the University pay \$103 a semester for parking.

The Learning and Retirement Program is a wonderful program but he does not think the University is fair to the leaders as they get none of that money to pay for the materials they provide the participants in their program. The only thing the members get for the money is the use of the classroom on campus, the use of the University libraries, the use of the shuttle busses as they have to park at Dyke Stadium and invitations to the Learning and Retirement social events.

Alderman Moran commented on the letter from the Levy Center Advisory Board that said they developed a marketing committee to establish strategic alliances with other agencies serving seniors which included Northwestern University. This committee felt attracting a top notch program such as this would be a draw to the Levy Center and is sure this is the kind of program we're looking for to improve programs for the Levy Center. He thanks Northwestern because it brings opportunities of lifelong learning out to our citizens and constituents who use the Levy Center. We can talk endlessly on

Northwestern giving us money for any number of things including this program. Levy members were excited that this was being held at the Center. This was done on a pilot basis and the question will be do we continue with this at the Levy, it also says scholarships are available. This seminar being held at the Levy Center is a coup for the City, our Levy Center members and is a great benefit to all of us and we should be proud a strategic alliance has been developed between the Levy Center and Northwestern to do a program such as this. Mr. Zwick thought the program is wonderful but if there was an imaginative and capable director of that center we could do a program just like learning and retirement ourselves at a much lower cost. We don't need to bring in Northwestern at a cost of \$500 a year when something like this could be done on our own.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste was trying to figure out if Mr. Zwick's main focus is Northwestern should share the proceeds with the Levy Center or his focus is a judgment about the program not being worth the money people are paying. Mr. Zwick said he would prefer we run it ourselves and not charge \$500. Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked if due to this program it occurred to Mr. Zwick that this is something we could do, or is your only concern they could hold this type of program at the Levy Center if they share the proceeds with us. Alderman Jean-Baptiste wanted to add a commentary on staff creativity, that staff has been running an excellent center at Levy and by accommodating this it's not their fault that the Advisory Board decided to enter into this alliance. Staff did not go out and seek out this program to bring in.

Alderman Bernstein asked what our policy is with respect to utilizing our facilities to anybody, for profit, not-for-profit, or fee generating. Mr. Gaynor said we run programs ourselves, we develop partnerships and rent the facility out at different times. On Thursday evenings we rent the facility to Weight Watchers for a fee. In this particular case staff met, there was a discussion that went to the Advisory Board which is part of an overall marketing strategy. The sense was by bringing Northwestern University in as one of our partners there was a very significant benefit of much greater visibility than we have been able to obtain. The benefit outweighed a fee, the North Shore Senior Center offered to take this program without charging a fee but we wanted to experiment with this as a pilot program. We felt it was beneficial for us to have exposure to bring more seniors throughout the area into the Levy Center. It's not just Evanston residents who use the facility; we have non resident members who pay a non member fee. Alderman Bernstein asked how many Levy Center members are participants in this program to which Mr. Zwick said none, but Mr. Gaynor did not believe so as this was set up as a pilot program to see whether or not it was beneficial for us to have that program. Alderman Bernstein said he appreciates talking about expanding the horizons and marketing of the Levy Center but wants some benefit given to the members of the Levy Center. He does not understand why we charge Weight Watchers and not Northwestern. His concern is that we have a wonderful facility available for various outside celebrations, Mr. Gaynor added it's available to District 65, District 202, for no charge, it's open to AYSO Soccer, Evanston Baseball, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Secretary of State, etc. Also, the Levy Center is not booked from the time we open until the time we close. This particular room was not being utilized, rented or not rented, giving us an opportunity to fill the space, provide exposure for higher visibility and run a program that we had no monetary obligations to. It does not cost us any money to have them there on that date. Alderman Tisdahl asked if other space is available if Mr. Zwick wanted to do a similar program that would not cost anything, to which Mr. Gaynor said we have to see what his program is and if it falls within the parameters. Alderman Jean-Baptiste asked if its part of the process that the Board gets involved in discussions of determining programs, to which Mr. Gaynor responded staff as well as the Board develop programs. Alderman Bernstein asked whose responsibility is it to set policy for the Levy Center and that would fall to City Council to which Alderman Bernstein responded, it hasn't happened because we have not been made aware of any of these programs. Mr. Gaynor noted these administrative policies have been in place since we were on Maple Avenue.

**Joan Hickman, member of Levy Center Life Enrichment Board and also a participant in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.** said as a Levy Board member she had expressed concern over the fact that the center was under utilized after 1:00 p.m. weekdays. She campaigned and was able to get the Open Door Ensemble of North Light Theater's senior outreach program, to use Levy Center for writing classes, acting classes, and business meetings, an arrangement that has worked for 2 years. There is a monetary arrangement between North Light and Levy. The Levy Board decided to have a market analysis to determine how to generate more activity for the afternoons and as a result of that proposed that classes from Osher Lifelong Learning Institute be held there in the afternoon. There are classrooms available on campus but the issue is there is no parking on campus making it feasible for members to meet in off campus buildings where they are able to park closer. The Levy proposal was attractive because the classroom space is clean and bright and parking is available. She was surprised to learn of Mr. Zwick's protest but she was more surprised that under the guise of a reporter he obtained names, addresses and phone numbers and used them to inundate the coordinators with letters and harassing phone calls. He has every right to protest when he is not happy with a situation but he does not have the right to pressure people to his way of thinking. Mr. Zwick disagreed with some of Ms. Hickman's statements.

Christina Ferraro remarked she's not sure where the letter Mr. Zwick received came from but it was well written and just about states the facts with one or two minor differences in dates and specifics. Alderman Bernstein asked how many groups or organizations use our facility for no money generates revenue. Ms. Ferraro responded maybe a dozen, the Secretary of State's office for drivers' licenses, AARP, to which Mr. Dornecker added none of the groups generate profit for themselves, they are organizations like Team Evanston or Evanston Baseball that might use it to hold a clinic, Weight Watchers if a for profit organization. Ms. Gaynor noted we also sponsor a number of programs that pay a fee. Alderman

Bernstein questioned how many programs that do not pay anything at the facility charge people a fee and wondered where the \$500 a person charged by Northwestern goes if they are not paying a rental fee or any instruction fee nor paying any materials fees.

Alderman Holmes thought we are making too big of a deal about a pilot project and Levy will not advertise this partnership until after the trial is completed. The Advisory Board thought there was a benefit for them to do this and will evaluate this after the pilot project to see if it was feasible and then maybe charge a fee or whatever they work out with Northwestern.

**Ken Schaffer, Professor of Management and Marketing at North Park University, and Chairman of the Marketing Committee of the Advisory Board at the Levy Center** said this was his brain child. The money charged for the program goes to the two administrators who are full time employees at Northwestern and for the reproduction of the material as there is an enormous amount of zeroing copyright materials Northwestern needs clearance for, there are also promotional costs. The \$500 is not for a single course, but 3 courses a semester. He was very upset with Mr. Zwick because this issue has taken Advisory Board members and staff at least 200 hours having to deal with this nonsense. Mr. Zwick has two points, he does not want Northwestern to get the space for free, but we are doing this on a trial basis and don't know if it will work and therefore did not want to take money under a premises that we could promise things that we couldn't deliver. Also, we want to see if they are going to deliver and do the promotion they promised. His other point is he wants to take the Levy Center off the administration of the Department of Parks and Recreation and move it to Health and Human Services. How he made that quantum leap from a pilot program to this other point is mind boggling to him.

Alderman Bernstein's concern was our policy with respect to payment. Mr. Gaynor said if you are a 501C-3 non-profit organization you don't pay. Ms. Hickman said she was very concerned over the fact that the Center was dead after 1:00 p.m. where the North Shore Senior Center is busy until 4:00 p.m. Mr. Gaynor was not sure that we are not busy after 1:00 p.m., perhaps not as busy as in the morning. There are a diminishing number of seniors using the facility later in the afternoon because seniors like to get home before dark. Also, our Levy bus transportation leaves in the middle of the afternoon. Two weeks ago we were fortunate to obtain a second bus which came from a state grant that was applied for three years ago, and this bus will enable us to modify and enhance our system for seniors to stay later in the day. We do have other groups that charge but do not pay a fee. Certain programs that come into the facility such as Mr. Terry brings 1,000 people in for flu shots we do not charge a fee for. There are trade offs, AARP does a program they charge for but we do not charge them which brings more people into the facility. A jazz band practices in the facility that we do not charge for; however, they have a couple concerts at the facility and do not charge us. Mr. Gaynor said he would like to provide the committee with the Recreation Board's rental policy which can be discussed at another meeting. Staff as well as the Advisory Board spent a considerable amount of time on this and at no time have we disrespected Mr. Zwick. Mr. Zwick has disrespected his staff and did in fact by name disrespect one of his staff tonight which is unacceptable from him and he would like to have it on record that as far as he is concerned Christina Ferraro our Manager of the Levy Center is an outstanding representative of the City and does a great job at the Levy Center.

Alderman Jean-Baptiste said as a result of this discussion Mr. Zwick may be someplace else in his assessment of this since it is a pilot program. It is a program aimed at achieving other goals such as marketing and the Board itself may be able to evaluate the cost and benefits to make a decision whether to continue with the program as is, whether to request shared fees, or any other decision. Maybe Mr. Zwick's input to the Board might be taken into consideration in determining what the next step might be. If this were a general policy of bringing groups in from Northwestern to charge fees and pay no costs that might be something that the Council may want to step in and try to ask be changed. Right now the Board should continue to exercise their independent judgment with this limited set of circumstances and we should not be stepping in to make any determination. However, if it becomes a broad open door where anything goes, at that point we ought to step in and try to influence a different direction.

Mr. Zwick's concern was we are establishing a precedent that would cause problems in the future and his understanding of pilot programs in other organizations is you're trying out something in the same fashion that you hope to continue with after the pilot program is completed. Alderman Bernstein thanked everyone for their participation in this discussion.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Trotsky  
Department of Health and Human Services