



Approved 6.4-2018

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday May 7, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston IL, Council Chambers

Members Present: Alderman Fleming, Alderman Revelle, Alderman Rue-Simmons, Alderman Fiske

Members not Present: Alderman Braithwaite

Staff Present: James Pickett, Kimberley Richardson, Nicola Whyte, Jody Wright, Evonda Thomas-Smith, Pat Efiom, Mario Treto

Presiding Member: Alderman Revelle

CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Ald. Revelle called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF March 5, 2018

Alderman Rue Simmons moved approval, Alderman Fleming seconded; approved 4-0

Citizen Comments

Carlos Mendez Assistant Principal at Washington School complaint is included in the packet's review of police review of complaints. He noted the report and what actually occurred have some discrepancies and even though the stop did not occur on school grounds it was in front of a school and his desire is officers are trained to deescalate situations.

Betty Sue Ester noted the Citizen Police Complaint Assessment Committee Status Report was okay. She congratulated the group on their research and efforts. She was disappointed the survey was not completed by more residents.

Madelyn Ducre noted that Twigs and Butler parks still do not have a sign she also spoke on several other issues.

Bed and Breakfast Renewal

Staff recommends approval for the renewal of the Bed and Breakfast License for Stone Porch by the Lake Bed and Breakfast located at 300 Church Street, Evanston, IL 60201.

For Action

Alderman Rue Simmons moved approval, Alderman Fleming seconded, Motion approved 2-2 (Fiske and Fleming)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Rodent Control Update

Health and Human Services Director Evonda Thomas-Smith updated the committee on Rodent Control, General Assistance, and Victim's Advocacy.

There have been 123 rodent requests so far for 2018. The department continues to provide educational sessions on rodent control to residents and rodent walks. There have been eleven areas of the city that has been identified through 311 calls of areas of focus for the rodent educational walks. The next Rodent Walk is May 11, 2018.

General Assistance Program Update

- Evanston residents can now participate in the GED classes offered previously only to General Assistance participants.
- Fifth Third Bank has made it accessible for General Assistance participants to open checking and savings accounts in which they can cash their benefit checks.
- Social Security Benefits has reimbursed the City \$8,624.27 for participants approved for SSI benefits while they were on GA thus far for 2018.
- The 50/50 program will be implemented this year; burial benefits will also be available.

Ald. Fleming asked staff to review the criteria for individuals who have been convicted of a Class X or Class 1 felony under the Illinois Controlled Substance Act or the Illinois Cannabis Control Act after August 2, 1996 is ineligible.

Victims Advocacy Update

Interviews for a 3rd Human Service Advocate will begin next week and community partners from YWCA and Presence will assist with the interviewing process.

Currently no advocacy staff is designated to be available after hours; the lack of a designee is placing the burden on the chaplains. Qualified Human Services staff will receive additional training to assist with the afterhours calls. The combination of the three advocacy and human services staff would provide the department a total of six staff rotating to assist with afterhours calls.

Mental Health Board 2019 Funding Priorities

Staff recommends consideration of the Mental Health Board's proposed 2019 Funding Priorities. At its April meeting the Mental Health Board (MHB) discussed ways to better align MHB priorities with City Council goals as part of the development of their priorities for 2019. MHB is submitting these funding priorities to the Human Services Committee for review and acceptance

Karin Ruetzel Chair of the Mental Health Board is concerned the mental health board is on the list for the 2019 budget cuts and highlighted the Boards assets.

George Hall supports the Mental Health Board and its mental health agencies.

Vice-Chair Mike Pierce advised any cut to the Mental Health Board funding should be done gradually and the loss of the funding would be a disservice to the community.

Police Issues Work Plan Update

Citizen Police Complaint Assessment Committee Status Report
Deputy Chief James Picket reviewed two updates on the work plan

- #4 Crisis Intervention Team Training

Update: 55 officers have attended. Police Units will begin to "code" calls for service using a specific designator so that these incidents can be tracked. 4 officers are slotted to attend training in May, 2 in June.

- #5 Continued Training Offered by Dr. Logan
Update: **Completed** 3rd Town Hall meeting on 4/26/2018. Topic was Social Media, Crime Prevention, and Community Policing.

Review of Police Complaints

Ald. Fleming suggested only adding background of complainant if necessary in the reports.

Citizen Police Complaint Assessment Committee Status Report

The Committee recommends that the Human Services Committee receive the status report.

Mathew Mitchell Chair of the Citizen Police Complaint Assessment Committee gave a brief history and overview of the committee and its work. A full written list of recommendations from the committee will be presented in October 2018. The committee was broken into 3 working groups: the **Data Group** put together the survey; the **Best Practices Group** researched best practices and the **Process Group** reviewed Evanston EPD current process.

Arrest Records

Alderman Fleming requested staff review the City of Evanston's policy regarding the posting of arrest records to the City's webpage and the length of time they need to be made available. Held in committee on March 5, 2018

Legal will return at the June meeting with answers to questions poised from the committee.

- How long should arrest records be posted on the website?
- Does the arrest report need to be published or just made available via FOIA?

ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

1st quarter 2018 Cannabis Report

No questions asked about this report

ADJOURNMENT

Unanimously approved, meeting adjourned at 7:17p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicola Whyte
Administrative Lead