

# City of Las Vegas

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDING BOARD  
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET  
CITY CLERKS 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)

## MINUTES

March 6, 2014

2:00 PM

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LUANN D. HOLMES, CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov).

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR McCOY called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR McCOY and MEMBERS ASSELIN, AKER, JORDAN, PAPPAS and POWELL

EXCUSED: MEMBERS McGRATH, ORDUNO, HARTLEY, YUEN, DeSALVIO, MILLER and THISTLEWAITE

ALSO PRESENT: BOB SYLVAIN, Deputy City Attorney, ARLENE COLEMAN, Senior Deputy City Clerk, and SHAWN BOLSTER, Grant Program Coordinator

2. [ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW](#)

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: - This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall Plaza, 400 Stewart Avenue, Vending Area; City Clerk's Bulletin Board, 400 Stewart Avenue, 2nd Floor Skybridge; Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue

3. [PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

None.

4. [Report on grants and scoring of the Community Development Block Grant Public Service applications and funding recommendations](#)

Minutes:

SHAWN BOLSTER, Grant Program Coordinator, reminded the applicants to state their name(s) for the record and that they have 10 minutes to make their presentations, which includes questions from the Board.

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5. [Report on Community Development Block Grant Public Service \(CDBG\) applications submitted by S.A.F.E. House, Salvation Army, Southern Nevada Public Television and Vegas PBS, Spread the Word Nevada, St. Jude's Ranch for Children of Nevada Region, Nevada Health Centers, Inc., Three Square, United States Veterans Initiative, Variety Early Learning Center, WestCare Nevada, Inc., and Women's Development Center](#)

## NOTE:

During the discussion, SHAWN BOLSTER, Grant Program Coordinator, reminded the Board that disclosures should be made, if applicable, to which the Board recognized.

## Minutes:

S.A.F.E. House - JULIE PROCTOR spoke on behalf of S.A.F.E. House, which was incorporated in 1984; about 66 percent of clients reside in Las Vegas. The requested funding is for the salary of shelter facilitators positions, who answers hotline calls every day and assist clients with free services including shelter in undisclosed location, legal advocacy, counseling and transitional programs. S.A.F.E. House partners with other organizations that have housing components to their programs.

CHAIR PAPPAS congratulated S.A.F.E. House on its 20 years as well as successfully overcoming a deficient budget. She confirmed with MS. PROCTOR that the organization assist women and children; however, they have a positive relationship with Station Casinos and can place men in hotels if they participate in counseling and advocacy. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to seek assistance through this grant funding.

Salvation Army - PHILLIP HOLLON appeared with LAVONNE LEWIS, SYLVIA DAVIS, MARIANNE LUKE and RALPH MARTIN as well as case management staff. MR. HOLLON gave a brief history on Salvation Army and how it has evolved representing 126 countries worldwide. Salvation Army continues to meet human needs without discrimination and is dedicated to maintaining administration and a fund ration of 12 percent with eight percent on client assistance.

MS. DAVIS stated that the Salvation Armys residential vocational service is a uniquely structured program that meets individuals where they are in life moving client with self-sufficiency through behavior modification and support. Clients are assigned to a case manager who immediately begins to identify resources to address barriers and issues; no one size fits all so must have multiple purposes in servicing the homeless. MS. DAVIS described the phases a client goes through including short term classes, direct job placement activities, full time employment and affordable housing.

Former client, MR. MARTIN, shared his experience as a former homeless person and how the organization helped him through college, employment and housing. He attested to the organizations reputation and how deserving they are for the requested funding.

MEMBER YUEN confirmed with MS. DAVIS that they usually service approximately 250 clients annually; 128 successfully complete the program and 70 percent are assisted with full time employment and/or college courses.

MEMBER McCOY congratulated MR. MARTIN on taking charge and moving forward with his life with courage.

CHAIR PAPPAS commended the organization on its budget and confirmed with MS. DAVIS that it can take up to 12 months for a client to go through the program; older population has more difficulty with finding employment. Las Vegas is a transient town but for those that exit on their own/discharged, they are referred to other programs for alcohol and drug rehabilitation. In reference to the 70 percent who are assisted with employment/college courses, CHAIR PAPPAS was informed by MS. DAVIS that the other 30 percent tend to take a little longer and/or do not complete the program.

One of Salvation Armys clients shared her story and how this organization helped her; she was grateful and looks forward to paying it forward in helping others now. MR. HOLLON thanked the Board for their time.

Southern Nevada Public Television and Vegas PBS - LEE SALANTHROM, JESSICA TARROW and BRAD appeared with MR. SALANTHROM expressing their gratitude for the Members and their community efforts relative to supporting childhood literacy. PBS has served the Las Vegas community for over 45 years, and their efforts have been recognized nationally. Despite economic challenges, the needs remain the same as well as their commitment to service, community

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outreach and literacy.

MS. TARROW recognized SANDY WATREL, who was in the audience, and is on staff as well. Instruction on how to use their PBS program is provided to maximize the value of education at home. It involves a learning triangle, a three-step process: sign language with family by watching television; interaction with what is on the television screen; and sign language for reading the books a, which are provided to every family who attends the workshop. Extensive recordkeeping is done to ensure what is being offered is utilized at home with the families; in addition, health and dental workshops are conducted.

MEMBER POWELL inquired about MS. WATRELS services, to which she said that she works for MS. TARROW, specifically conducting nine workshops, tier 2 literacy interventions and also keeping kids fit in fighting childhood obesity. Relative to selecting schools, they are vigorous in screening individuals as she and MS. TARROW are certified professionals. They identify those with the greatest economic needs in terms of at risk populations, literacy or health issues.

CHAIR PAPPAS recognized the organizations budget deficiencies, and MR. BRAD responded that without the depreciation factor, the budget would reflect differently. The organization has two years reserves, and last year, it turned a million dollars in the black. PBS television operates through non-profit organizations.

CHAIR PAPPAS applauded the organization on incorporating sign language into the program but asked about language barriers for some parents. MS. TARROW replied that parents are willing to help and want children to excel. She referred to the PBS valuable environmental print shop, noting through oral conversations, the child is acquiring learning as well as has the ability to turn on close caption programming.

MS. TARROW informed CHAIR PAPPAS that they conduct a pre survey with parents to seek feedback on their childs behavior and what their habits are then follow up within two months of those results.

Spread the Word Nevada - LISA HOBBLECOURSE appreciated the Boards support and mentioned the organization has taken on 10 schools, providing service to approximately 18,000 students/families on a monthly basis. Their flagship program is one that includes a family breakfast, literacy events with family participation and a mentoring program to get individuals to help with student reading. With last years funding, the organization was able to purchase bags and five gently used books to almost 6,000 kids. These efforts have resulted in an overall 24 percent increase in literacy scores; they are a part of the Downtown Achieves program and desire to be in all seven schools.

They have started a summer reading program and are partnering with Three Square, in an effort to be transparent and maintain financial success. Although they are the only one in Henderson, Nevada, they serve the entire valley.

Regarding not reaching out to state and/or county, MS. HOBBLECOURSE informed CHAIR PAPPAS that they did apply through North Las Vegas and did the same to no avail with the City of Henderson. They have since hired a grant writer with experience and plan on achieving 60 schools in five years. She also informed MEMBER POWELL that they have started seeking donations through Goodwill as well as similar out-of-state organizations. They welcomed any suggestions, as MEMBER POWELL believed a great collaboration could happen with some of the local professors. One issue they recognize is that many students come from higher income families who give donations but have switched to E readers and buying fewer books.

MS. SALANTHROM discussed with some of the Members criteria reference testing and the switch to common core testing, which is yearly testing and compares the children, ages preschool to fifth grade, across the district.

CHAIR PAPPAS congratulated the organization on 21 percent in literacy, as this an immeasurable opportunity available to children.

MS. SALANTHROM informed MEMBER ASSELIN that the organization is looking at purchasing E readers within the next three years.

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St. Jude's Ranch for Children of Nevada Region - MAISHA WILSON, JOHN BARRY and local resident, JESSICA HENSHAW, appeared while MS. WILSON gave a brief background about the Crossings program, which started in 2009 and had its first resident in 2012. They now have 15 beds, and the program is transitional for 18 to 24 year olds in which many of these individuals come from foster care or were homeless. One must have been homeless to participate in the program, and services provided include drug rehabilitation, education assessment, GED training and a partnership with Clark County for counseling and case management. Within the first three months, the individuals must have succeeded in part-time or full-time employment; as they become stable, the organization collects 30 percent of total income. At graduation, they get all of that income back to assist in permanent housing. MR. BARRY pointed out that this program is the last chance for many of them, so case management aspect is intense. As a component of St. Jude, they utilize the scholarship money for individuals in the program.

Regarding funding, the program acquires \$235,000 annually from HUD for subsidize housing costs. Administration and corporate fees remain in the organization, and looking at expanding in other programs that cater to the homeless. Another element at Crossings is the complex that was built using HUD funding, which was studio apartments; they would like to double their occupancy. MS. WILSON added they have a waiting list and would like to service those individuals by doubling up the apartments with roommates.

MS. HENSHAW shared her past family issues and how the program has become her new family. She appreciated the services Crossings has provided and with their assistance, she had a support system and was eventually able to complete job training and find employment.

CHAIR PAPPAS congratulated MS. HENSHAW on her bravery and sharing her story and success.

MS. WILSON discussed with Members that the average length of stay is up to 24 months, but some of the younger individuals stay six months to one year. If an individual does not complete the program, the portion the organization obtains from his/her salary is returned to the individual.

Nevada Health Centers, Inc. - DR. DAVIS, MS. KATIE and MS. SAMANTHA appeared and explained their organization provides health care to those uninsured, geographically isolated and underinsured. DR. DAVIS explained that their outreach clinic is on the site of Salvation Army, and their services include medical care assistance, educational programs and outreach programs. About 20 percent suffer from moderate or severe health issues for many years and have limited resources in providing care for the homeless.

They would like to utilize the requested funding for dental care for those living on the streets; their current staff would provide such care. Dental assistance has been a struggle within the program since funding from MGM Hotel and Casino has been exhausted.

In looking at the representatives application, CHAIR PAPPAS noticed that the number of individuals served has decreased. MS. SAMANTHA answered that they have very limited funding to provide dental cards. MS. KATIE added that they are exploring other options, but there are limited resources relative to funding the homeless with dental care.

MEMBER YUEN asked how many clients they intend to grant, to which MS. KATIE responded they have a waiting list of 70 individuals but hope to service 100. Any additional funding could assist those on the waiting list.

Three Square - CYNTHIA RADLEY, Government Grant Specialist, ANDY, Chief Financial Officer, and KELLY BUMGAMER, Nevada Hand, appeared and explained that the requested funds are to fund 200 seniors for the Senior Share Program, particularly seniors who suffer with chronic illnesses with high quality foods that you wouldn't see at a food pantry. In order to qualify, clients need to have a medical condition, can make their own meals and have to be receiving some type of assistance. The program was launched in the fall of 2010 with six sites, and now there are over 20 with 1,200 seniors. Because it is a large organization, they can buy the food in bulk. The cost per senior is approximately \$260. MS. BUMGAMER, is the Wellness Coordinator for Nevada Hand, and mentioned five of the facilities have what is called the Senior Program. Since May 2013, they have received and distributed over 15,000 packages to over 400 residents per month and have made a significant impact in their lives. For many of them, it was the first time in year they had had fresh produce. She has had seniors express their gratitude, and they have also been able to fill their prescriptions since they are

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not spending it on food. The only complaint she has received is that this program is not at all of their facilities.

MEMBER YUEN asked if the cost was per month or per year, and MEMBER McCOY asked how they determine food and security. MS. RADLEY stated it is determined by income and assets. There is a federal level they use to get snap benefits. CHAIR PAPPAS asked how many meals the seniors get per day. MS. RADLEY stated the box includes six meals, which equates to 24 boxes per year. It is meant to supplement their food and give them a higher quality of food.

CHAIR PAPPAS confirmed with the representatives that the excess revenue from the three-year plan is restricted for future years.

For SHAWN BOLSTER, Grant Program Coordinator, MS. RADLEY explained that the agency has no control over whether individuals are accepted in the federal food stamp program, but they assist seniors in preparing their documentation for submittal.

United States Veterans Initiative - CHALIMAR appeared with AMY, United States Veterans, and requested funding to support at risk and homeless veterans and their families through an outreach program. The team goes out into the parks, camps, soup kitchens, veterans clinics - anywhere a veteran can be found. Many of the veterans are in need of housing; once they enter the program, there is an 88 percent success rate, and 65 percent transition to permanent housing. They also bring veteran clients who have either graduated or are doing well in the program with them in the field to speak with the homeless veterans, as this is the most direct service in making connections with the veterans. They have a staff of 41 employees, and interaction with these individuals can take up to four encounters before one decides to enter the program.

MEMBER McCOY applauded them on the program and the initiative to seek out veterans and let them know that they are cared about and offer such services to rehabilitate them.

MEMBER YUEN asked how the program assists a homeless in transitioning to living in a home or on their own. MS. CHALIMAR answered that they participate with individuals in life skills classes as well as with businesses on potential employment. The individuals are also provided with uniforms and work cards. More so, the Department of Labor assists individuals in seeking and maintaining employment. Once employed, the individual pays for some of his/her services. The program monitors their savings, and when they are shown to be ready, they are referred out. After they have maintained their employment for certain timeframes, they receive incentives, as aftercare services are provided to make sure they can transition successfully.

MS. CHALIMAR verified for MEMBER YUEN that the requested funding is primarily for the outreach program and to diversify their resources. The average age of these individuals was once 55 years old and is now 45, and women and children are now being serviced as well.

Variety Early Learning Center MS. TOYA, Executive Director, stated that the center is a preschool and child care center providing services for children who are in the greatest need. They provide tuition assistance scholarships to bring children to high quality care instead of leaving them in the home. The children they serve tend to be at risk children, who statistically have lower test scores, live at the poverty line and commit crimes. Studies show that when they receive early quality care, they are usually more successful in life. They track the children throughout their high school life as long as they reside in Nevada. As a means of a stipulation for receiving scholarships, the parents are required to volunteer in the school with the child. They are also required to attend parent meetings twice a month on finance, nutrition, credit repair and how to play with their children.

CHAIR PAPPAS liked the fact that the parents have to be engaged, and MS. TOYA noted that the goal is to better assist the families, and part of that is the increased tuition.

MEMBER McCOY commented on performance measures and the cost of \$2,500 per family to attend the school, to which MS. TOYA noted that the grant is written based on an estimate of how many children can be served.

MEMBER YUEN asked about the graduation rate, and MS. TOYA replied that the center now has a tracking system which will provide statistics going forward.

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CHAIR PAPPAS queried about the transient population locally and wondered how many are given scholarships then leave, and MS. TOYA answered that those with scholarships usually don't leave. Those that attend Variety Early Learning Center tend to be native.

WestCare Nevada, Inc. - BRADFORD GLOVER explained that the requested funds are to continue the first component of the program, which is to expand Westcare Nevada, Inc. He gave a brief background on the agency, Westcare, and its services. Westcare's admission is 24 hours a day, and the average length of stay is three days for the past year. One of Westcare's main goals is to provide medical detoxification services to 1,000 residents diverted from emergency rooms. The second goal is to provide counseling and a case manager to serve those 1,000 clients per year.

CHAIR PAPPAS congratulated Westcare on its services at the rate they do; she asked about an update on the funding which has been in the red in past years. MR. BRADFORD replied that funding comes from contracts with the hospitals, county and city agencies, and sometimes Westcare utilizes its own funds which are received later and affects the next fiscal year, not the current one.

MEMBER AKER was informed by MR. BRADFORD that if a client relapse, Westcare has a contract with another agency in which services are provided to that client by that agency. If the client continues to relapse, they are placed in outpatient care or, if necessary, inpatient care.

CHAIR PAPPAS asked if the new health care law has affected Westcare, and MR. BRADFORD indicated that funding is through the State and as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, Westcare is making changes, such as screening clients for insurance verification. Westcare will not be paid for residential treatment, so the desire is to increase the staff for outpatient services. He thanked the Board for their service.

Women's Development Center - TINA PRIETO and BRIDGETT CLARITY appeared and thanked the Members for their sacrifice and service to the community. The requested funds would be used for transitional housing in housing and case management services for the homeless and low income residents.

M.S CLARITY was proud to announce that each year, the agency exceeds its goals for grant funding; with the services provided, individuals experience higher self-esteem, a sense of security with safe housing, budgeting/debt management, food stamps and case management services for the entire family which moves families toward financial stability. She cited some statistics pertaining to individuals who experienced domestic abuse, and 90 percent had collections with an average debt of \$2,000. The Board was invited to visit and tour their center.

MS. PRIETO added that many of the parents need assistance with parenting skills, and the center's services provides assistance through workshops on how to improve the developmental and social skills for children.

CHAIR PAPPAS was impressed with the rather low cost to assist per client and praised the applicant for the amazing services available.

6. [CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE BOARD UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

PHILLIP HOLLON, Salvation Army, pointed out the many presentations the Board has heard and thanked the Members for their time and staff's assistance. He appreciated having an outlet for applicants that can come in and share their stories for the past two weeks; he was certain their lives were changed. Through his experience, non-profit organizations for children is a testament to we are all interested in their future, as they are the next leaders.

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SHAWN BOLSTER passed out an ESG color coded document to the Board, which was not submitted for the record. She explained staff is trying to figure out a way to assist the Board with the ESG program, as there may have been some confusion relative to the statistics as well as some applicants not applying for the maximum amount of funding available. MS. BOLSTER, along with other staff, explained in detail how the Board can review and make recommendations relative to the grant funds available.

Staff member, TARA, defined that an individual who is chronic, has a disability and is on the streets for a period of time is a federal designation and assisting those types of individuals through a Request for Proposal process can be difficult, given that the agencies had selected the easiest ones to serve - yet the chronically defined individuals were not being assisted. MS. BOLSTER also explained that funds granted cannot exceed the applicants requested amounts. Staff could certainly redefine the process if necessary.

MEMBER JORDAN asked about surplus, to which MS. BOLSTER replied there should not be a surplus, as it is defined by category. A new approach with the City is being used, as the Board emphasizes on what the needs are and how to fill any gaps. MS. TARA added that data is reviewed to see what the community needs and address the resources available and align them with the needs of the community. In past times, there have been gaps with what the community needs versus what resources are being provided.

MS. BOLSTER asked the Members to ensure their scores are entered into the Zooms application by next Monday. She will create spreadsheets, which will allow the Members an opportunity to review the categories.

## 7. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Arlene Coleman, Senior Deputy City Clerk

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Shawn Bolster, Grant Program Coordinator

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with disabilities or impairments. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 702-229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway  
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue  
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive