

JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes: September 27, 2021

Attendees: Deb Schorr, County Board; Christa Yoakum, County Board; Dave Derbin, County Board CAO; Sandra Washington, City Council; James Michael Bowers, City Council; Adelle Burk, Mayor's Office; Jon Carlson, Mayor's Office; Sara Hoyle, Human Services; and Jenni Ryan, Human Services.

Excused: CJ Johnson, Region V; Renee Dozier, Region V; Meagan Liesveld, United Way

James called the meeting to order. Sandra made a motion to pass the consent agenda. Christa seconded. Motion passed 6-0 with no objections.

ACTION ITEMS:

City JBC Funding Amounts

This shows a 3.5% increase for those agencies who requested it. Brain Injury Alliance did not request a second year funding. Nebraska Aids Project said they could operate at the same amount as in year one.

VOTE: Deb motioned to forward the recommendations to the City Council for final approval, Adelle seconded. Motion Passed 4-0. Christa and James abstained due to conflicts of interest.

ARPA Applications – Round 1

See spreadsheet. Concerns were shared about making any final funding decisions without knowing what all the requests were coming in, especially with so many already in the first few rounds. Dave expressed there's also the need to consider all four funding priorities and making sure there is funding awarded under each one. Discussion ensued about the expected timeline of receiving funding requests over the years. We have enough requests that have come in to allocate all the funds fairly quickly. It was decided we would move up the planned application deadlines for the following 3 rounds and then hold a global review at the January JBC meeting. We'll still have the Review Panel look at the applications in rounds to retain manageability of the grant reviews, we'll just push those dates closer together. Deb stated she would also like to have a sense of what other funding is being accessed by these agencies. Jenni will send out preliminary notification letters to agencies being recommended for some amount of funding, letting them know they are moving forward in the review process, as well as notification letters for those being recommended for zero funding.

- St. Monica's – the County is already working with them on a re-entry housing program for women. Would like to ask questions for clarification on what buildings are being kept & which are moving.
- CenterPointe – wouldn't want to go any higher than \$3M. They get revenue & have the ability to fundraise.
- GNCC – could see need for extra staff ending by the 4th year and being able to utilize volunteers again. Can we ask them to add the amount in years 4 & 5 to the capital outlay & then we'd give them the full amount? Would like to see them make more permanent improvements rather than repairs.
- Bluestem – unclear where the drop in revenue is coming from since many of their clients aren't self-paying anyway. It doesn't seem like there's an issue of the doors closing.
- Food Fort – concerns about the organization itself, run by 3 family members who are both on the Board & the employees.
- Visionary Youth – they haven't been able to spend Keno funds or get any programming running during covid. Suggest looking into different funding sources.
- Boy Scouts – not enough link to the behavioral health priority
- Youth for Christ – not enough link to the priority, seems more for revenue generating than service provision. Not serving a high needs area.

UPDATES:

Covid Update - None

REPORTS: did not do reports for this meeting

Next Meeting: November 22, 2021 from 2:00-3:30pm in the City Council Chambers

Respectfully Submitted:

Jenni Ryan,

Lancaster County Human Services