

# **Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Summary February 1, 2018**

**Committee Members Present:** Cherina Kleven (By Phone), Gerry Mackin, Erika Marquez, Ernesto Perdomo (By Phone), Lavonne Lewis, Patrick Smith, Taurus Duncan, Wendell Williams

**Committee Members Absent:** Esther Langston, Nancy Brune, Nora Luna, Robert Torres

**Clark County Staff Present:** Michael Pawlak, Bobby Gordon, Gina Olivares and Jasmine Cook

- **Call to Order**
  - By Vice-Chair Lavonne Lewis at 11:36 a.m.
- **Introduction of All Members**
- **Public Comment**
  - None
- **Approval of December Meeting Summary**
  - Ernesto Perdomo motion to approve, Cherina Kleven second.
- **Announcements from Members/Social Service Staff**
  - Bobby Gordon – We have our Annual Black History Luncheon coming up here at Social Service, to be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018. You all are invited to attend; the cost is \$10 to purchase a lunch. There will also be a raffle for some great prizes.

My last day with Social Service will be March 2, 2018. Therefore, this will be my last meeting. This is the only job I have ever held. I have been here for 30 years.

- **Department Update**
  - Gina Olivares – Four memberships were renewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 19, 2017. They were Cherina Kleven, Esther Langston, Patrick Smith and Taurus Duncan. They have been renewed for a new three-year term effective December 19, 2017.
  - Michael Pawlak – In the annual Continuum of Care application process, Clark County Social Service is the collaborative applicant. We organize the community process to determine who is going to apply for those funds and then we wrap that into a single application that we submit to HUD for the national competition to try to get funding for our community. That process has completed for this cycle, and I am happy to report that we did very well nationally. Twenty-nine of our projects were recommended for funding from HUD and we - on first blush - are looking at receiving \$13,597,125 for our homeless programming. Those 29 programs represent all but 1 project that we submitted. The one is in the second tier, which is not yet funded but it could still be funded if HUD determines that there is still money left after they do the first round of funding; so they could come back to us and fund that final project.

The last point in time count took place in January. We will try to bring back some results and outcomes from that at the next meeting.

At the last meeting we talked a little about the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center, which is being sponsored by Clark County Social Service. It is also being staffed by cooperating agencies and it is still going on.

There have been some exciting newspaper headlines recently regarding the Las Vegas Victims Fund. Effective at the end of this month, the application process is closed. So we are heading into a new phase. People are thinking that the Resiliency Center is passing out money and that is not the case. The center serves as a hub to get people matched to assistance that they might need. We do not provide financial assistance directly through the center. The two funds that are being talked about are the Las Vegas Victims fund, which is the original pot of money that was raised by the GoFundMe account, and the National Compassion Fund. Those were merged to become the Las Vegas Victims Fund and it has a panel of community members that oversees it. They have set criteria for who is eligible and how that money will be distributed. There is not much money there, when you look at the need, but those decisions will now start being vetted, and they will make their awards. Now, there is another pot of money called the Las Vegas Strong Fund; and that is the fund created by the casino industry without any single intention in mind. It was an industry-sponsored fund that was for an undetermined need. At this moment, I believe that fund is in a holding pattern to see what the long-term and unmet needs will be from the first round of funding.

- **Membership**

- Bobby Gordon – As you recall, at the last meeting we approved the Bylaws. I just need to get with our Assistant District Attorney to get them all solidified and ensure the correct language. Once we have done this we will be able to present the amended versions to all.

We also need to vote on the Chair and Vice Chair for this upcoming year. Patrick Smith motions to renew the current Chair and Vice Chair. Gerry Mackin second, and the committee unanimously agrees.

- **Public Comment:**

- None

- **Adjournment:**

- By Wendell Williams at 12:19 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. at Clark County Social Service located at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada.