



General Government & Social Services

December 5, 2017

Summary and Motions

Chair Lamb called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Committee members Moloney, F. Brown, Henson, J. Brown, Evans, Farmer, Kay, Stinnett, and Smith were present. Council Members Plomin and Bledsoe were also in attendance as non-voting members.

I. Approval of October 10, 2017 Committee Summary

A motion was made by CM Stinnett to approve the October 10, 2017 General Government & Social Services Committee Summary, seconded by CM Evans. The motion passed without dissent.

II. Parks Foundation Update

Monica Conrad, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided the committee with a brief update on the Parks Foundation. She said the idea of establishing a Parks Foundation was placed into committee in 2014. She said they have worked internally since then to determine the next steps that should be enacted. She said they hired a grant writer who has worked through several 501c3 organizations to obtain grants for the Parks and Recreation Department. She said currently they are working with eleven partner groups that are specific in mission to the areas they are supporting. She said there are also potential future partners. She said at this time and after discussing this with the Master Plan consultants and several council members, they recommend remaining with their current structure of working with their specific partners and working within their mission to support the park operations and continuing to evaluate this in the future.

CM Stinnett asked if we have looked at the Parks Acquisition Fund and possibly transferring that use to start an endowment from all or a portion of that fund. Conrad said they have not explored that specifically, but they looked at the acquisition fund and the Parks Master Plan to see what that might hold as well. She said they have not specifically looked at changing that to an endowment fund, but it is something they can look at. CM Stinnett said this is a conversation we can have with the folks at Home Builders who help establish that. He said this is growing every year with the number of building permits issued in the last 12 months and it is an opportunity to take all or a piece of it to get this endowment fund off to a good start.

CM Moloney said he remembers a previous discussion about this funding and he went back to the Home Builders and talked to them about making some changes. He said from what he understands, the only way they can change this is to go back to the board as a whole to make those changes. He said we will need to have an example that shows what we are going to use the money for. He said he wants to be sure that everyone knows we have to go through the folks that designed the program. He said he has tried this once and we have to have a project in mind before we can use the money.

CM Henson asked what the balance of the Parks Acquisition Fund is. Conrad said she does not know, but she can get the information to council. She said they provided this once before and they can look at it again. CM Henson said this will be good information to know. She said the ordinance that created the fund is very specific as to what it can be used for. She said they would need to get the approval from Home Builders and amend the ordinance so they can do something like this. CM Henson said if that fund

is not being used then we need to look at an area where we can expand our parks or utilize those funds in a different manner.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

III. Lexington Global Engagement Center

Isabel Taylor, Multicultural Affairs Coordinator, presented the item. She provided a review of Global Lex for 2017. She reviewed the immigrant population, the foreign language speakers, and 153 languages. She discussed the refugees and the charities. She also discussed University of Kentucky's international students from over 100 countries including 582 undergrads, 1015 graduate and 350 post-doctorate. She reviewed the various trainings and workshops available. She reviewed the student internships available through University of Kentucky, Henry Clay High schools, and sister cities. She discussed the stakeholders who have done outreach at Global Lex including Lexington Human Trafficking Taskforce, Provider Cabinet, Migrant Network Coalition, FLACA, UNA/USA of the Bluegrass, University of Kentucky International Hospitality Program, Kentucky Refugee Ministries and KITA. She reviewed the wide range of information solicited including social security, health insurance, taxes, basic needs, and requests for more intense or urgent assistance. A motion was made by CM Henson to provide the presenter with an additional 5 minutes, seconded by CM Farmer; there were no objections. Taylor continued the presentation by discussing the International Art Gallery. She said the purpose of this was to integrate international artists to the local art scene. The art gallery also introduces our community to art and culture from around the world and it also provides a venue to provide education about geo political, economic, and humanitarian events and issues.

CM Henson said she appreciates the work done on this. And she said she knows how much it is needed when someone comes here who is unfamiliar with our country and we can orient them with whatever their needs might be. She said she also appreciates the innovation this organization provides.

CM Plomin asked about Fayette County Public Schools and asked Taylor to elaborate since there are no updated numbers. Taylor said she is unsure that she understands the different collections systems that they had in place before and have in place now. She said that in looking at the data, the data seems different. Taylor said she asked the people who have been sending her the data and they told her that they have been collecting it differently and they have been excluding some students who are English Language learners. She said she does not understand why so she cannot speak to that. CM Plomin asked what that does to the numbers. Taylor said she cannot compare old data with the new when there is a different matrix. She said that is why she is not presenting new data when she is not sure it is the same. Taylor said they are gearing up for the census which will provide a house to house count.

CM Evans said we are in a different climate with international communities. She asked if we are taking another direction with our advisory boards or taking other precautions. Taylor said at this level we do not know much; it is up to Congress to decide and the courts and the administration. She said we have to wait and see how this is going to affect people. She said this is affecting families here who cannot bring their family or their wife who is about to have a baby and she is stuck in the home country and unable to meet her husband. She said it is a worldwide problem right now. She said all the families can do right now is to wait and see and try to follow whatever channel is open to reunify their family members. CM Evans asked if they are waiting for a bigger effort to get information out or if that information is already out there. Taylor said they have had community meetings with different international communities. She said they want to know what to expect and all we can tell them is that

we do not know yet. She said they have the Mayor's International Affairs Advisory Commission that has international attorneys who guide people as to what they can do at this time.

CM Farmer said he appreciates the work being done. He asked if this information is sent to the Public Information Office or how people would find out about this. Taylor said a newsletter is sent out and Council should be receiving this.

CM Moloney said he appreciates the work as well and he sees jobs and opportunities and he is not sure Social Services would be the right area. He said he feels like this would do better in Economic Development. Taylor said she feels every administration has a hard time placing them. CM Moloney said he would like to ask the administration why this is not in Economic Development. CAO Hamilton said when they look at the budget; they will look at everything organizationally.

CM Bledsoe said she is a member of Global Lex International Affairs Commission and they have done a great job growing the program, growing the group, and managing it. She said the commission does a great job of listening to people and trying to figure out their concerns and what we can do under our jurisdiction to help them and pointing them in the right direction in areas where we can't help. She said the purpose of this is to help people navigate so they know where to go to get what they need. She said they have done a great job with economic development and building partnerships in the city.

VM Kay spoke on the India presentation. He said he is surprised to know how far people traveled to hear the presentation. He said it was a wonderful event and he encouraged others to attend if given the opportunity.

Chair Lamb said she is proud of how this has grown since it started and it is helpful because it shows the international community that they are welcome and their history and culture are important to us. She said she appreciates the large amount of work done on this with a small staff.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

IV. Rebranding of the Day Treatment Center

CM Henson said this item was discussed at the previous General Government and Social Services committee meeting and she has since met with Chris Ford, Commissioner of Social Services and Stephanie Hong, Director of the Day Treatment Center, to formulate a solution. Commissioner Ford and Director Hong presented the item. Ford provided the committee with the recommendation for whom the Day Treatment Center should be named. He said after some discussion, they would like to recommend renaming the Day Treatment Center in honor of Audrey Grevious who was an educator in Lexington and a civil rights leader throughout her career. He said in researching Ms. Grevious, it was discovered that she started her career teaching delinquent youth. He said her entire career is a testament and it speaks to the work of the Day Treatment Center. Hong continued the presentation by saying the Ms. Grevious's legacy of work reflects the mission of the Day Treatment Center and the purpose of the program. She said Ms. Grevious's spirit is exemplified in how the social workers, teachers, and the support staff work with the kids on a daily basis. She said she feel this name is the perfect match for the Day Treatment Center.

CM J. Brown asked if they have talked with the Grevious family to see how they feel about the name being considered as a possibility for the Day Treatment Center. Ford said they have and they endorse this. He said Ms. Grevious's brother, Robert Jefferson, served on the Urban County Council and has a history with civil rights and public service. He said the family would be honored if the council chose to move forward with this.

VM Kay said he feels this name is entirely appropriate. He said for those who knew Ms. Grevious, he would like to say that, in addition to all that she did in the community and for the community, she had a feisty attitude; she was clear and outspoken; and you knew what was on her mind. He said it was a pleasure to work with her and this would be a fitting honor for her.

CM Stinnett said he appreciates them coming back so quickly with a fitting name. He said it goes a long way in serving our youth and those who are able to go through the program and the other mission the program serves for the community. He asked what the new name of the Day Treatment Center will actually be. Commissioner Ford said they have not gotten to the actual renaming yet. He said when the Council endorses the renaming, they will go back to determine if it will be Audrey Grevious Academy, School, etc. CM Stinnett said he supports this and it is long overdue.

CM Henson asked Commissioner Ford if we should make a motion or wait. Ford said if it pleases the council, a motion to endorse and recognize Ms. Grevious in this way would empower him and his staff to come back with a proper naming of the facility. CM Henson said she appreciates the work done on this.

A motion was made by CM Henson to approve the Rebranding of the Day Treatment Center item and move it to the full council, seconded by CM Farmer. The motion passed without dissent.

V. Items Referred to Committee

A motion was made by CM Moloney to have a policy that states that a building name change goes through CAO office to GGSS committee and then to full council for approval, seconded by CM Henson. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by VM Kay to remove the Rebranding of the Day Treatment Center item from committee, seconded by CM Henson. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by VM Kay to remove the Parks Foundation item from committee, seconded by CM F. Brown. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by CM Henson to adjourn, seconded by VM Kay. The motion passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

KT 12.18.17