

Social Services & Community Development Committee
June 18, 2013 Summary & Motions

Ford called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM. All members were present. Gorton and Clarke also were in attendance.

5.28.13 Committee Summary

On a motion by Ellinger, second Myers, the summary of the 6.18.13 Social Services & Community Development Committee meeting was approved unanimously.

Senior Citizens Center Update

Ford called on CAO Hamilton. Hamilton stated that the YMCA of Central Kentucky approached the Mayor's Office about partnering for senior citizens facilities and services.

David Martorano, President & CEO of the YMCA of Central Kentucky made a presentation. He reviewed past efforts to replace the Lexington Senior Citizens Center on Nicholasville Road. He also stated that the YMCA has been seeking opportunities to expand its services to seniors.

Martorano proposed that the City and the YMCA renovate or expand three existing YMCA facilities, at Beaumont, North Lexington and High Street to include dedicated senior citizen space. In addition part of the proposed new facility in Hamburg would be dedicated to senior citizen services.

Martorano proposed that the YMCA would contribute a portion of the capital funding required. He proposed that Lexington would provide \$ 12 million in capital, including \$ 5 million in FY 14.

Martorano stated that the YMCA would assume operational responsibilities for the senior citizen centers.

Gorton asked Hamilton if LFUCG had ever paid for a facility that it did not own other than the William Wells Brown School. Hamilton will respond with more information.

Gorton asked about hours of service. In response Martorano stated that he was aware that the present senior facility was open until 5PM and he was proposing offering services until 3PM.

Kay stated that he was supportive of the concept and asked Commissioner Mills for her comments. In response Mills stated that she received the proposal last week and had several questions about it.

Scutchfield asked about the current workforce at the senior center. In response Martorano stated that could be part of the management agreement, but the YMCA was willing to operate the facility.

In response to a question from Scutchfield Mills stated that approximately 50 seniors utilize the facility between 3 and 5PM. In response to a question from Scutchfield Martorano stated that he can get information about communities and YMCAs that jointly operate similar facilities.

Akers asked about the history of this proposal and why the Commissioner of Social Services was not involved in the initial conversations. In response Hamilton stated that the YMCA had approached the Mayor's Office in mid spring and Mills was not involved because she would be opposed and she wanted to discuss this with the Commissioner.

Mills stated that she was a proponent of a single central senior citizens facility. She was concerned that several partner agencies that offer services at the center could not offer similar level of services at multi sites.

Lane stated that he was in favor of multi sites due to the growing senior population.

Stinnett asked about the timeline and stated that time was critical. In response Martorano stated that Beaumont would be expended, followed by the construction of the Hamburg facility, followed by the expansion of the North Lexington YMCA and finally the High Street facility.

Stinnett discussed the size of the facilities. He stated that he didn't think 5-10,000 square feet were adequate. He stated that 2- 20,000 sf facilities may be between than 4- 10,000 sf centers.

Beard discussed partnership arrangements and the need to work together.

Clarke discussed control of the proposed facilities. He also discussed programming for the senior population. He also discussed mixing various age groups in one facility.

In response to a question from Ford, Martorano stated that he first discussed this proposal with Mayor Gray in early May at the Commerce Lexington Leadership visit to Omaha. Ford also discussed current partnerships with the YMCA.

On a motion by Akers, second Myers, to move forward on the original plan for a single central Senior Citizens Center and to consider partnering with the YMCA for satellite locations and other future partnering opportunities passed on a 6-4 vote (Ford, Akers, Ellinger, Lawless, Scutchfield, Myers-Yes; Kay, Stinnett, Beard, Lane- No.

Stinnett stated that Council had not heard from the Administration since February on this matter. He asked what the plan is? In response Hamilton stated that at least one of the sites under consideration is no longer available. She stated that she will schedule a

presentation at an upcoming Work Session to discuss the preferred site and a request for proposals to go forward.

Office of Aging Services & Disability Support

Kristy Stambaugh made the presentation on the Office of Aging Services & Disability Support. She provided demographic information on the senior and disabled populations.

She stated that the City offers senior programs at several locations including the Senior Citizen Center, Bell House, the Eldercrafters at the Black & Williams Center, and the Charles Young Center.

Stambaugh state that the Senior Citizens Center is open Monday-Friday from 8AM-5PM. The average daily attendance is approximately 129 and they have 870 unique users registered. The average age is 78; 75% of the users are woman; and approximately 40% live alone while the other 60% live with others.

Stambaugh described the Bluegrass Help at Home Registry, the Senior Intern Program and the Senior Minute program on WKYT.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM.