REDMOND CITY COUNCIL PARKS AND HUMAN SERVICES (PKHS) COMMITTEE/ MEETING SUMMARY

Council Conference Room 15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington

Tuesday, September 3, 2013

Council:

David Carson (4:45pm)
Tom Flynn, Chair
John Stilin
Hank Margeson (Attending Council Member)

Staff:

Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning/Cultural Arts Mgr B Sanders, Senior Planner, Parks Alaric Bien, Senior Planner, Planning Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator Katie Anderson, Deputy Parks Director, Parks Mark Hickok, Recreation Division Manager, Parks Erika Nuerenberg, King County Health

Michelle M. McGehee, MMC, City Clerk

Convened: 4:30 p.m. Adjourned: 5:37 p.m.

Committee Chair Tom Flynn, opened the meeting, announced the Council members in attendance, and overviewed the agenda.

King County Public Health Presentation-Washington Health Plan Finder

Ms. Erika Nuerenberg, from King County Public Health, discussed the open enrollment for the expanded Medicaid and the Health Benefit Exchange. The healthcare exchange in Washington is called the Washington Healthplanfinder. In King County, the uninsured rate is from 3-30% depending on the area. The uninsured in Redmond is at 11%. The goal is to get King County down to an overall 4% uninsured. One hundred eighty thousand previously uninsured residents of King County are now able to receive health insurance. Eighty thousand will be eligible for Medicaid, and 100,000 are eligible for the exchange. King County Health is focused on educating people about their options, how to enroll, and where to go. They are also using a targeted enrollment program where they will be sitting down with residents at a computer to help them enroll in health insurance.

Some of the residents of King County are unable to or choose not to get insurance. These people include:

- undocumented immigrants,
- certain religious groups who request an exemption,
- some Native American tribes who have their own system for enrollment,
- the incarcerated (King County is working to get them enrolled as soon as they are released), and

• residents under 30 years old who don't think they will get sick.

Legal immigrants who have been in the country less than five years are not eligible for Medicaid but are eligible for the exchange.

The challenges that King County is facing are:

- health care reform is confusing;
- some people won't take advantage of the program; and
- education is not enough when there are cultural, language, and economic barriers.

To combat these challenges, King County has enlisted the help of many partners through a grant from the state. In Redmond, these partners are:

- Healthpoint Redmond: offering in-person enrollment on October 7 and 21, 2013.
- Together Center: offering enrollment assistance on October 9, 19, and 23, 2013.

King County Health is requesting that the Redmond City Council be champions for their constituents by promoting enrollment events, providing information through Redmond's website, newsletters, and public engagements. To help provide residents with messages and updates about the health care program, King County Health will provide a toolkit each month to be used on social media.

General discussion ensued regarding how expensive is it for young people to enroll and if there is a requirement by colleges that students have insurance.

Food Drive

Mr. Alaric Bien, Senior Planner, stated that the annual food drive is on September 28-29, 2013, at the QFC Bella Bottega, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Human Services Commissioners will also be participating.

General discussion ensued regarding making the hours for the food drive 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and if the date is correct.

Winter Shelter

Mr. Alaric Bien, Senior Planner, has contacted all the large churches and some of the smaller churches in Redmond to find winter shelters. Mr. Bien has a commitment from the Redwood Family Church to host the women's shelter from December 15, 2013, through February 15, 2014. Mr. Bien has not found a host for the men's shelter yet. He is currently looking at commercial properties that meet zoning requirements in Redmond as an alternative.

Community Development Block Grant Allocations

Mr. Alaric Bien, Senior Planner, stated that he has yet to receive the contract for this year's funds; however, he is already required to make the plans for next year's allocations. Ten percent of the grant, \$23,098, will be allocated for administration, ten percent for human services will be split evenly between the men's and women's winter shelters, approximately \$11,500 each. The

remaining percentage will go to A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) projects. Mr. Bien has solicited draft proposals for other uses for the funds but nothing else met the criteria. There was a public hearing for any comments at the Human Services Commission Meeting on August 12, 2013. There were no comments, so he will be coming to the Council with a Consent Agenda item on September 17, 2013.

General discussion ensued regarding a request to see the notes from the Human Services Commission's public hearing, and to find out what projects are eligible under ARCH.

Dudley Carter Park Grant Contract Amendment

Ms. Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning and Cultural Arts Manager, discussed applying for an exception to receive a grant for the Dudley Carter Park. The exception was approved, so the Council will be receiving the contract to sign on September 17, 2013. The contract allows the Haida House to stay on the property because it is considered a piece of art and a historic landmark; however, the Haida House can't be used for public programing but can occasionally be used for special events. The building can't be upgraded to be used as an indoor facility, but it can be upgraded to preserve its nature and character. The City must seek a seal of approval to change the use of the building. Ms. Hope feels that the conditions are in-line with the master plan.

General discussion ensued regarding if Redmond is getting any State funding from this contract.

Parks and Recreation User Fees-Revised Schedule

Ms. Katie Anderson, Deputy Parks Director, stated that in 2012 there were approximately 8,000 bookings for facility and field rentals. Ninety percent of those bookings were from Redmond residents. These bookings brought in over \$500,000 in revenue. The last time the fee schedule was revised was in 2008. The fee schedule has been reviewed through a market survey, midpoint market comparisons, and the competitive rental market. The new fees are expected to bring in a projected \$75,000 annually. The proposed fee changes are:

- establish a new youth athletic field use fee to reflect a priority use by youth,
- a new fee category and reduced rental for sports use of the gym,
- add a commercial use rate (residents will be at the same rate as non-residents),
- increase the premium field surcharge by one dollar,
- increase the picnic shelter fee,
- increase the fee for indoor meeting rooms,
- increase the fee for indoor facilities at parks, and
- increase staff fees for non-traditional use.

Rentals already booked for 2014 will still have the 2013 rates. The new fees start in January 2014.

Redmond Central Connector Art Contract

Mr. Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator, and Ms. Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning and Cultural Arts Manager, discussed the piece of artwork, Sky Painting, for the Connector Trail parking lot. Mr. John Fleming has a contract with the City for \$16,000 to design the artwork. For the sake of efficiency, Mr. Fleming will also be asked to administer the installation budget. His contract for Sky Painting will need to be amended to a total of \$80,000. The other piece of artwork, Signals, is going to be at the intersection of the Connector Trail and Brown Street. The cost of this piece of artwork will be rolled into the contract for Sky Painting, bringing the total for the two pieces of art to \$155,000. The money for the Signals piece has not yet been approved by the Council. Parks has additional revenue over what was projected for the year, so Ms. Hope recommends that Parks fund the Signals piece.

General discussion ensued regarding the logistics of the Sky Painting art placement in a parking lot.

Downtown Park Consultant Selection

Ms. B Sanders, Senior Planner, stated that on August 16, 2013, the consultant selection for the Downtown Park was narrowed from 22 firms to five firms. Three of the firms are from the Northwest, one firm is from New York, and one firm is from California. This project will have a Steering Committee to help score the firms and will meet every other month during this one-year project. The committee of 20-30 people would represent a wide range of organizations. The public meeting is on Thursday, September 26, 2013.

Cultural Corridor Plan

Mr. Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator, briefly provided an update on the Cultural Corridor plan. On September 6, 2013, he will provide the final draft of the plan. On September 17, 2013, Mr. Heim would like to come to the Council for final approval.

Arts Season Grants

Mr. Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator, briefly stated that since 2002 the City has been supporting Arts and Cultural Organizations and Educational Institutions. Over the last 12 years, the City has invested \$80,000 in Arts Season Grants. They are currently looking for project proposals for 2014. The level of the grant has increased to about \$3000 each, to increase the scale and impact of the art. In 2014, the goal is to give out \$12,000 in grants focusing on the cultural corridor.