

**: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS:  
HUMAN RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Human Resources Commission was held in the Twin Towers Building, PGM Department, 456 Fulton St., Suite 402, Peoria, Illinois, on October 21, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. Chairperson Simkins called the meeting to order @ 8:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed the following Commissioners were present: Erica Baird, Katherine Coyle, Jim Hancock, Jay McCormick, Judy Oakford, Nancy Rakoff, Jim Simkins, and Chet Tomczyk; Absent: Estella Vallejo.

Staff Present: Mike Sims and Linda Belcher  
Others present: Tony Lipscomb, Cornerstone Vocational Center; Pam Schubach, Habitat for Humanity; Julie Siebert, Children's Home

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the September 16, 2011, and September 30, 2011, meetings.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Oakford to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2011, meeting; Seconded by Commissioner Coyle; Approved 8 Yeas, 0 Nays, by viva voce vote.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner McCormick to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2011, meeting; Seconded by Commissioner Coyle; Approved 8 Yeas, 0 Nays, by viva voce vote.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ranking and Funding Recommendation of the 2012 Public Service Grants**

Mike Sims stated that public notice had been given for release of CDBG Public Service Grant Applications. Applications had been received by the City and ranked by the Human Resources Commission. He indicated that Ms. McKnight had put the rankings into a spreadsheet showing the average ranking and funding allocation of all HRC members for each activity. The final rankings and funding recommendations will be sent to City Council.

Mr. Sims stated that Commissioners with a conflict of interest with a particular program cannot participate in the process of making recommendations for a cut off of funding and cannot comment on the agencies where they have a conflict of interest.

Chairperson Simkins stated that Commissioners had submitted written Conflict of Interest forms as follows:

Commissioner Katherine Coyle – None  
Commissioner Jim Hancock - None  
Commissioner Jay McCormick - None  
Commissioner Judy Oakford - None  
Commissioner Chet Tomczyk - None  
Chairperson Jim Simkins – Community Workshop & Training Center  
Commissioner Nancy Rakoff – Common Place  
Commissioner Estella Vallejo – Boys & Girls Club of Greater Peoria  
Commissioner Erica Baird - None

Chairperson Simkins stated that, traditionally, the HRC has looked at the overall average rankings of all of the Commissioners and found a natural break.

Following a brief discussion, **Commissioner McCormick made a motion that funding stop at ranking 129.67, which is a natural break, and fund all of the 23 agencies above that figure; No Second; Motion failed.**

Commissioner Coyle said she felt pretty strongly about the Tri-County Urban League and wished there was some way to fund them.

**Commissioner McCormick made a motion that the break in the rankings be after line 24 to include the line 24 agency and redistribute the remaining \$6,000. Seconded by Commissioner Tomczyk; 7 Yeas, 1 Nay. Roll Call vote was taken.**

**Motion approved by roll call vote.**

**Yeas: Erica Baird, Katherine Coyle, Jay McCormick, Judy Oakford, and Chet Tomczyk. -**

**Nays: Jim Hancock,**

**Abstention: Jim Simkins and Nancy Rakoff**

Mr. Sims made the changes necessary on the overhead projector spreadsheet showing cutting off funding after line 24.

Following a brief discussion, **Commissioner Hancock made a motion to add \$1,000 to the top six agencies from the remaining \$6,000; Seconded by Commissioner Coyle; Approved by viva voce vote, with Commissioners Simkins and Rakoff abstaining.**

**Commissioner Baird made a motion that the remaining \$11.00 be given to the Center for Prevention of Abuse; Seconded by Commissioner McCormick; Approved by viva voce vote, with Commissioners Simkins and Rakoff abstaining.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock to allow Staff to make necessary adjustments if the CDBG funds received in 2012 are within 5% of the projected funded amounts, since the exact dollar amount is not known until the award is made; Seconded by Commissioner McCormick; Approved by viva voce vote.**

**B. Update on 2011 Public Service and Emergency Shelter Grants**

It was mentioned that the City would not be releasing the ESG Applications until HUD releases the HEARTH Act regulations.

**C. Citizen Comments**

Pam Schubach suggested that the HRC invite Emily Cahill, who is the HUD Representative for the Continuum of Care, to give a presentation regarding information she has received from HUD regarding the HEARTH Act; ESG is going to get more money. She indicated that Ms. Cahill is very well versed and could give a presentation regarding the HEARTH Act; and that could be married up with the information the City has. She indicated that HUD has recommended that the Continuum of Care proceed with rules currently in place.

Chairperson Simkins suggested that it would be appropriate that the HRC request a report back from Ms. McKnight regarding any changes the City may have received from HUD and ask if she would like to invite Emily Cahill to give a presentation on information she has received from HUD regarding the HEARTH Act.

**Commissioner Rakoff made a motion that the HRC extend an invitation to Emily Cahill to give a presentation at the next HRC meeting regarding the HEARTH Act; Seconded by Commissioner Baird; Approved by viva voce vote.**

Commissioner Baird asked if funds would go somewhere else due to the proposed budget cuts. Mr. Sims explained that HUD funds are never received until late in the year. He indicated that there was a communication from the City Manager that went to City Council on October, 17, 2011. There were comments in that communication that he would like to see the Public Service funds be used for Public Safety. Commissioner Rakoff expressed concern and read from the HRC Minutes dated August 19, 2011, when the City Manager addressed the HRC stating that he was comfortable with the 15% going to public services.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson Simkins requested that an item be placed on the agenda for the next HRC meeting to appoint the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. He also indicated that he would like to see the HRC meet at least ten times during the year to address issues, such as weightings, rankings, and any changes in the application process in order to get those to Ms. McKnight earlier in the year.

Commissioners requested that Ms. McKnight contact them with the date that the HRC recommendations will go to City Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock to adjourn the meeting at 9:25a.m.; Seconded by Commissioner Baird; Approved by viva voce vote.**

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Mike Sims

Grants Coordinator