HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
June 3, 2019
Minutes

Members Present: Morgan, Naeyaert, Sebolt, Slaughter, Stivers, Tennis, and Trubac.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Treasurer Eric Schertzing, Brigitte Gurden, Rachel Ruddock, Ismael Jaber, Jared Cypher, Beth Foster, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tennis at 6:30 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room “D & E” of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the May 20, 2019 Minutes

WITHOUT OBJECTION, CHAIRPERSON TENNIS STATED THE MAY 20, 2019 MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

Additions to the Agenda

5. Community Health Center Board - Interviews

Limited Public Comment

None.

MOVED BY COMM. SLAUGHTER, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAeyaERT, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION ITEMS:

3. **Mid-State Health Network** – Resolution to Authorize an Extension to the Inter-Local Agreement with Mid State Health Network (MSHN)

4. **Health Department** – Resolution to Amend the Staffing Services Agreement with Cross Country

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

1. **Youth Commission** – Interviews

Ismael Jaber interviewed for a position on the Youth Commission.
MOVED BY COMM. SEBOLT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. NAeyaERT, TO APPOINT ISMAEL JABER TO THE YOUTH COMMISSION.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Community Health Center Board – Interviews

Rachel Ruddock interviewed for a position on the Community Health Center Board.

MOVED BY COMM. NAeyaERT, SUPPORTED BY COMM. STIVERS, TO APPOINT RACHEL RUDDOCK TO THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER BOARD.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Presentation – EVE Capital Campaign and Building Usage

Brigitte Gurden, Executive Director, gave a presentation on the EVE Capital Campaign and Building Usage.

Chairperson Tennis asked what a reverter clause was.

Ms. Gurden stated that a reverter clause meant that EVE’s current property would go back to the County if vacated.

Treasurer Eric Schertzing stated that he believed the reverter clause was there to ensure that the property was still used for this purpose and it may have also been used to cloak the ownership.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked what the value of the property was.

Ms. Gurden stated that the property was worth about $287,000.

Chairperson Tennis asked how large the parcel was.

Ms. Gurden stated that it was about one acre.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked if the plan was to move from the current location to a different location.

Ms. Gurden stated that that was the plan.

Discussion.

Commissioner Sebolt asked if EVE was paying the County rent.

Ms. Gurden stated that they were not.
Discussion.

Ms. Gurden stated that the biggest problem why EVE was full and had to turn people away was that the people they are helping cannot be rehoused fast enough. She further stated that there was also a lack of affordable housing in the area.

Commissioner Slaughter asked what a person should do if they came across someone who needed help.

Ms. Gurden stated that the best thing to do was to have them call EVE’s crisis line which was available 24/7.

Chairperson Tennis thanked Ms. Gurden.

**Commissioner Announcements**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD
Commissioner Naeyaert asked what options the Board of Commissioners had if they wanted to assist EVE.

Jared Cypher, Deputy Controller, stated that the County could decide to sell EVE the property for one dollar. He further stated that the reverter clause was there to ensure the property is used for an intended use, so it would need to be evaluated as far as what would it be used for if the County did get it back, and if there is no use, then there would be a strong argument to sell it to EVE.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that everything EVE did was remarkable. She further stated that without hesitation she would move to sell the property to EVE for one dollar.

Chairperson Tennis stated that he would like to have staff come up with a resolution regarding selling the property to EVE and bring it to a future meeting.

Commissioner Stivers stated that she would like to hear more about the location and consult with stakeholders in the Old Town area.

Mr. Cypher stated that the Committee could go into closed session to discuss the location because it involved real estate.

Chairperson Tennis stated that Commissioner Stivers meant she wanted staff to look into it, not to discuss it presently.

Commissioner Stivers stated that that was what she meant. She further stated that she wanted EVE to be able to sell it and use the profits for program purposes, but there may be other considerations when it came to who might end up trying to purchase property in that area.

Chairperson Tennis stated that the Committee was very interested in pursuing selling EVE the property and asked staff to consult with legal counsel, the assessor, and to check for any potential unintended consequences.

Commissioner Stivers asked what the timeframe was for relocation.

Ms. Gurden stated that the plan was to move in five years and that she wanted to get everything in order now to avoid any issues when it was time.

Commissioner Slaughter asked, out of the 184 families EVE had to turn away due to lack of space, if there was any sense of where those families ended up.

Ms. Gurden stated that it depended on many issues, including the severity of the case, and that they often worked with other agencies to help those who had to be turned away. She further stated that they helped victims of domestic violence and human trafficking victims.

Commissioner Stivers asked if the County could offer a location for more beds in the short-term.