

AAQOL – Business Workgroup Minutes

Meeting date: 2/3/15 @ 6:00pm

Attendees:

- Kirk Yoshida
- Vince Corbalis
- Aletta Banks
- Kara Takasaki

The following is a working document which lists the various potential budget areas of interest for the AAQOL Commission. In our workgroup session, we reviewed the document and offer the annotated version as our minutes. We started the session off with a review of the business workgroup's purpose and an overview of the city's budget timelines, including the timing of budget requests, such as division unmet service need requests through city departments and budget amendments requests on the dais.

Parks & Recreation

FY 2016 AARC unmet service needs

- Recreation Programs Specialist (FTE) for Senior Meal Program (\$57,000 – **funded**)
- Funding to expand Senior Meal Program one day/week (\$18,000 – **funded at \$32,000**)
- Funding for P/T Shuttle Driver one day/week*
- Translation Services (marketing & outreach)*
- Public Event Leader (FTE) for Facility Rentals Program - **submitted by Taja for FY 2017 funding**
- Contract instructors to provide more programs
- ***Potential action item: Create resolution in support of Public Event Leader FTE and one or more of the remaining unmet service needs from 2016***

The group reviewed the AARC unmet service needs from 2016. The first two bulleted items above were funded. The public event leader FTE was submitted by Taja for inclusion in the Parks & Recreation Department budget and is explained in the section below.

The PARD budget will be submitted to the city's budget office before the Commission's March meeting. Therefore, Vincent has drafted resolutions – one in support of the Public Event Leader FTE, one supporting the addition of a P/T shuttle driver and another van, and one to increase the budget for translation services.

FY 2017 AARC unmet service need submission submitted by Taja

- Public Event Leader (FTE) for Facility Rentals Program (\$55,000)
- *In FY 2015, the AARC entered into a total of 465 facility reservations/rentals. This represents a 60% increase from the prior fiscal year with 302 facility reservations/rentals. There continues to be an increasing demand for the use of the facility's affordable space from nonprofit organizations, community groups, City departments and the general public. We do not have the staffing capacity to meet this demand. Currently, there is one Event Coordinator (FTE) to handle all requests with myself as back-up (I'm at the center working an event now). There has been a high-turnover rate for part-time/temporary event staff as most individuals are seeking full-time employment. We have had to decline some facility rental inquiries.*

Other

- Inquiry: Purchase/rental of 15-passenger van + part-time/temporary shuttle driver to expand Senior Meals Program to other parts of town and/or increase frequency of pickups, which are currently every other week

Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR)

MBE/WBE Study

- *Potential action item: Create resolution regarding the ordinance changes*

FY 2016 Budget

- \$25,457 decrease from Support Services Fund resulting from the delay of the implementation of the civilian markets to an August 1, 2016 implementation
- \$50,000 reduction from underutilized legal services to clients

Aletta shared the status of the Disparity Study and how the item to accept the study is scheduled to be on the Feb. 26 city council agenda. Aletta will draft a resolution for the city council to accept the study and support improvements in policy based on the study results.

Austin Police Department (APD)

Minority Recruitment

Interest areas include recruitment and sensitivity training for police officers and civilian staff.

- FY 2016 budget included a performance measurement for percent of Asians cadets entering the academy
 - FY 2013: 3
 - FY 2014: 11 (est.)
 - No specific goal for FY 2015 & FY 2016
- Office of the Police Monitor (OPM)

- FY 2016 budget says OPM will expand efforts to provide marketing material in more Asian languages

City Public Information Office (CPIO)

- FY 2016 budget mentions that the CPIO will extend connections to minority and foreign-language populations

Office of the City Clerk

- FY 2016 budget mentions that the City Clerk plans to increase the number of published election materials through minority news organizations

Human Resources

Interest areas include minority recruitment and sensitivity training for HR Department employees

Health & Human Services Department

This item was not included in the original list but has been added on Vince's suggestion. Areas of interest for the business workgroup include language access/translation, health equity issues, and community health navigator.

Economic Development

Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce (GAACG)

- *Potential Action Item: Create resolution asking the Economic Development Department to increase funding for the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce*
 - Background: GAACC gets the least amount (\$142,500) in the annual Consulting Agreement that the City of Austin through its Economic Development Department has with the other MECA chambers – Greater Austin Black Chamber (GABC), Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GAHCC), and Austin Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (AGLCC). AGLCC is the newest chamber to receive these funds yet, they received more than GAACC.
 - GAACG has requested the contracts for the other MECA chambers to understand differences in deliverables that may exist in each contract
 - GAACG has provided a list of 10 unique characteristics
 - The main program the GAACG would like to continue funding is Connect Forum, its minority business initiative. In 2015, GAACG received a grant of \$13,000 from US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce to expand it from annual to quarterly and it paid for a portion of their Small Business Program coordinator's salary (Jodie Huynh).

The workgroup discussed funding for the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce in comparison with the other MECA chambers. Aletta provided some information on how MECA chamber budgets changed last year (GAACC up, GABCC). Additional consideration and discussion with GAACC is needed before any type of resolution can be put forth.

Community Development Incentives Fund

This fund funds cultural events and activities, including:

- Cultural contracts
- “Jump on it Teen Night”
- Austin Dia de los Muertos

Minority AIDS Initiative

Commissioner Takasaki asked for additional information on this item, which was just a line item in the city’s budget with no additional information. The Minority AIDS Initiative is a federal grant administered by the Health and Human Services Department, HIV Resource Administration Unit (HRAU).

Non-City/Other

Austin Great Wall Chinese School/Austin Korean School rent increase at Webb MS

- Previous rate was \$550
- Rate increased to \$650 in January 2016
- Additional increase scheduled to take effect in September 2016
- *Potential action item: Create resolution asking AISD to waive the fee increase for these schools*

The workgroup discussed the Commission’s role in this issue, arguments for waiving the fee increase, potential solutions, as well as information needed to put forth a resolution. One potential argument for the fee waiver is that if the schools are forced to increase their tuition, it could push some students out from this learning opportunity. The workgroup is delaying a resolution for the time being while we work to (1) attempt to engage the Trustee for that area (Ann Teich), (2) find out what is done with school facility revenue, and (3) try to collect socio-economic and AISD vs non-AISD student percentage data from the schools.