

Approved Minutes

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Present: Committee members; Mary Lyttle, Ellen Faherty, Tessa Cochran English, and Mihaela Miteva, Licensing and Procurement Agent, Town of Orleans.
Not present: Michael Herman, Select board liaison.

Mary Lyttle called the meeting to order at 11:31 am.

Old Business:

The minutes from the January 05, 2023 meeting of the committee were approved without changes.

Mary consulted with the town attorney regarding an agency's eligibility for funding under Orleans Human Services town grant program. The committee discussed the attorney's recommendation to review the committee charge in relation to the matter. The committee reviewed the charge and agreed that the agency did not fall within the parameters for funding under the Human Services Advisory Committee.

New Business:

The committee conducted an in depth review of several of the grant applicant's funding requests.

The AIDS Support Group projected an increase in the number of Orleans clients served in the next fiscal year. They requested less funding from Orleans than in the previous funding year. Services provided to Orleans clients living with HIV and opioid use problems were discussed. Tessa recommended a possible invitation to the agency to discuss their application.

The Elder Services agency is requesting an increase in funding this year. The funding will be used exclusively for The Meals on Wheels program for Orleans residents. The funding requested from Orleans represents a small fraction of the actual cost of the program. The committee agreed that an interview of agency personnel was not needed.

The Sight Loss Services agency has applied for grant funding in the same amount as last year. The agency, which serves blind and people with low vision, has revised their definition of a unit of service and expanded their statistical tracking of services. These changes clarify how their services are provided to individual clients. They are currently reinstating activities that had been on hold due to the pandemic. The committee agreed that an interview of agency personnel was not needed.

The Family Pantry of Cape Cod has not increased their funding request for services provided to Orleans residents. The agency provides food and clothing to all who need it without any charge. Agency services, their unit of service, and other funding sources were discussed. In 2022, the agency began a mobile food pantry service in coordination with the Orleans Counsel on Aging that has been well received by Orleans residents. The committee agreed that an interview of agency personnel was not needed.

Outer Cape Health Care Services has requested funding from Orleans in the same amount as last fiscal year. They provide a full range of medical and behavioral health services from multiple locations on the lower and outer Cape. Details of their programs

were discussed. Grant funding received from Orleans is used exclusively for Orleans residents. The committee agreed that an interview of agency personnel was not needed.

The Mass Appeal agency has requested an increase in the level of funding that they received last year. The agency provides gently used clothing for adults and children and new footwear and underwear for children at no cost. More information is needed from them related to their budget breakdown. Tessa will work with the temporary director to clarify these issues.

Mary discussed inviting Katie Wibby, the new director of Lower Cape Outreach, to a future meeting of the committee.

The committee agreed to change the starting time of future meetings to 11:00 am.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for January 19, 2023. The zoom connection is as follows: Link to join Webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86495452095>
By Phone: (646) 558-8656 Webinar ID: 864 9545 2095

Respectfully Submitted
Ellen Faherty
Secretary, Orleans Human Services Advisory Committee