



Andy Schor, Mayor

City of Lansing HRCS Advisory Board Meeting Summary

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Foster Community Center

200 N. Foster Avenue

Lansing, MI 48912

Attendance: Paul Dripchak, Ron Embry, Sean Gehle, Melissa Horste, and Frank Lee

Excused: Dr. Versey Williams and Dr. Thomas Woods

Staff: Delvata Moses, Renee Morgan Freeman, and Toni Young

Others: Joe Abood, OCA

This meeting was called to order at 5:46 p.m. by Chair Ron Embry.

R. Freeman conducted a roll call. A quorum was established.

M. Horste moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by P. Dripchak. Motion carried.

M. Horste moved to accept the meeting minutes of July 23, 2024. Seconded by P. Dripchak. Motion carried.

There was no public comment or communication.

Deputy Director Moses reported that the HRCS Health and Wellness Fair was successful, with over 200 persons attending and participation from 60 agencies. Additionally, giveaways were provided. The following Health and Wellness Fair is scheduled for Thursday, August 7, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. HRCS is planning a Housing Rights and Resource Fair, themed Empower and Protect in partnership with the MSU Housing Justice Clinic for Wednesday, October 2, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Foster Community Center. The HRCS Contract Management Team will hold a grant recipient training on Tuesday, September 24th, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Peckham. Deputy Director Moses asked R. Freeman to provide the coat drive report. The Share the Warmth Coat Drive is in progress through November 17th, with drop-off at City Hall and the four Parks and Recreation Community Centers. There is a demand for men's large-size coats. An inventory of items on hand will be conducted in mid-October, and volunteers will be needed. State workers can use community service hours to volunteer, and America Corps has reached out to volunteer. HRCS AB members mentioned that the Jaycees and high school students were possible volunteers. Coats, hats, and gloves will be distributed at Community Connect on November 21st at CATA.

T. Young provided an update on the housing proposals from the RFP for the Warming Center Structure. HRCS is pursuing a partnership with Holy Cross as an expansion for 88 beds. Holy Cross may have additional funding to supplement the cost with the city. Currently, shelters are full. Another option that HRCS is pursuing is the Safe Outdoor Space (SOS) concept for those who do not prefer to be housed in a shelter or congregate environment. A search for a suitable location is currently underway. The objective is to eliminate or greatly reduce encampments throughout the city. Denver is a city that is being examined for best practices. It is hoped that the results of the homelessness study will be in December or January, spearheaded by Public Policy with upcoming focus groups. Discussion followed.

There were no committee reports.

Unfinished business required a vote of the Racial Equity Grant Recommendations. M. Horste moved to approve the list of recommendations as presented. Seconded by S. Gehle. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.