

## **Columbia City Council Pre-Council Minutes**

Monday, January 6, 2014 6:00 p.m.

City Hall – Conference Room 1A/1B

701 East Broadway

**Council members present:** Mayor McDavid, Fred Schmidt, Mike Trapp, Karl Skala, Ian Thomas, Laura Nauser and Barbara Hoppe

**Absent:** None

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Mayor McDavid called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

City Manager Mike Matthes reminded Council members who attended the National League of Cities Conference, that the January 21st Pre-Council will be dedicated to hearing their updates on the conference. Each Council member presenting will have approximately 15 minutes. This will include Barbara Hoppe, Karl Skala, Mike Trapp and Ian Thomas.

### **Boone County Community Services Advisory Commission Presentation:**

Mr. Matthes introduced Steve Hollis, Human Services Manager and staff liaison for the Boone County Community Services Advisory Commission (BCCSAC). Mr. Hollis introduced Amy Camp, the Chair of BCCSAC. Ms. Camp explained that they make annual recommendations to the City Council and Boone County Commission regarding the purchase of social services in our community. She reviewed the social service funding allocation process and explained that it is not a grant process. There are five main areas where funds are allocated: basic needs and emergency services, children, youth and families, economic opportunity, independent living and mental health.

The process also includes an assessment of current conditions, which she reviewed. The dashboard of current conditions includes: unemployment, disparities and poverty. She noted that the unemployment rate continues to improve in Boone County after a high of over 7% in 2010. But the current rate of 5% is still more than double the 2000 rate of 2%. Disparities include: social, economic, health, and educational disparities among races which continue to be a significant issue in our community. African Americans in Columbia continue to experience disproportionately high rates poverty and unemployment and disproportionately low rates of income, home ownership and educational attainment. She also added that the poverty rate for all individuals and families continues to increase in the U.S., Missouri and Boone County. The poverty rate in Boone County continues to be significantly higher than in Missouri and the U.S.

She noted that more than half of Boone County households with a female only household live below the poverty level. Mayor McDavid asked if undergraduates were captured in this analysis. Ms. Camp replied yes. Mr. Hollis added that the Federal poverty guidelines are based on projected food expenses and the rate here is more accurate since it does capture student populations.

Council person Skala asked if we would match what the rest of the State is doing if we did not factor in students. Ms. Camp replied yes, we are similar to the rest of the state. Council person Nausser asked if free and reduced lunch kids are included in these rates and Mr. Hollis noted that they are. Council person Trapp felt that it would be helpful to tease out the numbers of free versus reduced lunches, to look further into that group.

Ms. Camp continued on to discuss basic needs and emergency services. This includes sub-areas of homelessness, affordable housing, domestic violence and food security. The number of persons experiencing homelessness in Boone County is steadily increasing and disproportionately affects minorities, veterans, and persons with severe mental illness. Some progress has been made locally in reducing the number of unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness with chronic substance abuse and/or severe mental illness. Many families are homeless due to lack of affordable housing, poverty and unemployment. Singles are typically homeless due to substance abuse, lack of affordable housing and mental illness.

Council person Skala asked if affordable housing includes utilities too or just the cost of the home. Mr. Hollis indicated that it includes general housing costs and varies from rental to homeowner.

Ms. Camp discussed the issue of affordable housing and noted that in Boone County, the number of individuals on the Section 8 waiting list increased 21.5% between 2010-2012 while the number of persons waiting for CHA public housing decreased between 2008-2012. In 2011, 53.5% of renters in Boone County were housing cost burdened as compared to 49.8% in Missouri. Median household income for black-only families in Boone County was almost 53% less than white-only families between 2006 and 2010. Median annual housing costs for the U.S., Missouri, and Boone County have risen 13.4%, 13.9% and 12.2% respectively between 2005 and 2011.

Ms. Camp explained that the number of domestic violence incidents in Boone County rose from 2005 to 2011 while the Missouri rate decreased. In 2011, the rate of domestic violence incidents in Boone County was 53% higher than the Missouri rate. Between 2006 and 2012, 338 individuals were turned away from the True North domestic violence shelter due to a lack of capacity. Council person Skala asked if there is a distinction between urban and rural areas on domestic violence. Mr. Hollis was not sure.

Ms. Camp added that food security is another issue. The rate of households receiving SNAP benefits increased in the U.S., Missouri, and Boone County between 2007 and 2011. The rate of SNAP eligible families in Boone County decreased slightly while U.S. and Missouri rates increased between 2005 and 2010. The number of WIC participants in the U.S. and Missouri increased approximately two percentage points between 2008 and 2010 while Boone County participation increased by almost 10% during the same time period.

She continued to explain how sub-issues were prioritized and scored and noted that the capacity evaluation portion of the review included site visits and public input was also factored in. She reviewed the fourteen programs that were recommended for funding which covered the most critical issues in the community.

Mayor McDavid thanked the commission for work on the report. Council person Thomas asked if this was already approved by Council. Mr. Hollis explained that the budget was already approved and the approval of contracts would be up for approval tonight during the regular City Council meeting.

The entire presentation by the Boone County Community Services Advisory Commission can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/bcmanager/downloadfile.php?id=12134>

### **Business Continuity Plan Overview:**

Tony St. Romaine, Deputy City Manager and Josh Kramer, Deputy Director for Boone County Emergency Management provided an overview of emergency preparedness plans.

Mr. St. Romaine explained that Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is a plan maintained by jurisdictional levels for responding to disasters. A Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP), is a plan that describes IT and information systems recovery strategies. A Business Continuity Plan (BCP) is the plan for continuing mission essential functions under adverse conditions.

A local EOP serves as an overall playbook that guides community-wide response to disasters. It assigns general roles and responsibilities to government agencies, non-profits and private sector partners. It consists of the Basic Plan and 15 Emergency Support Functions (ESF's) and is currently in the process of being revised. Mr. Kramer added that all of these plans come into play with the same goal to restore operations to normalcy. As you go up the ladder, instances to prepare for become more generic. A local EOP has general themes and similarities in events. Natural disasters such as floods and tornadoes all have the same plan since the risks associated with those occurrences are similar and restoration needs are similar as well.

Mr. St. Romaine provided an overview and timeline for the BCP Task Force and noted items that were completed in 2013. He explained that mission essential functions are a limited set of mission-critical functions that must be continued throughout or resumed rapidly following a disruption of normal operations. Functions that must be performed to provide vital services, exercise civil authority, maintain the safety and health of the public, and sustain the economic base during a disruption. He also provided some examples of mission essential functions versus support activities. The next steps on finalizing the BCP is to determine locations for an EOP Command Center and Administrative Control Center, complete an emergency communication plan, determine a policy guidance for paying employees and making purchases during a disaster, find funding for Go-Kits, perform table top exercises and determine what other departments might need a BCP. Mr. St. Romaine briefly reviewed the Disaster Recovery Plan, which is an information system recovery strategy.

Council person Thomas asked if we could learn things from other cities that have used these plans. Mr. Kramer explained that was a large reason for transitioning to this type of plan.

The entire presentation on the Business Continuity Plan can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/bcmanager/downloadfile.php?id=12266>

**Other Topics Council Wishes to Discuss:**

None.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:56 PM.