



Gaithersburg

A CHARACTER COUNTS!
CITY OF GAITHERSBURG
MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORK SESSION

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012

A work session of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Mayor Katz presiding. Council Members present: Ashman, Drzyzgula, Marraffa, and Sesma. Absent: Spiegel. Staff present: City Manager Jones, Deputy City Manager Tomasello, City Attorney Board, Community & Public Relations Director Monaco, Director of Finance and Administration Belton, Community Services Division Chief Herndon, Youth Services Division Chief Smith, and City Attorney Board.

I. Fiscal Year 2013 Proposed Budget, Funding Allocations to Nonprofit Organizations & Schools

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has recommended the funding of seven RFPs to address the safety net service areas of Homeless Assistance for Singles, Homeless Assistance for Families, Emergency Assistance, Food, Health, Mental Health, and Workforce Development/Financial Wellness. Total recommended funding is \$587,644. The Educational Enrichment Committee (EEC) has recommended funding five programs operated by nonprofits that provide youth development programs in schools at a level of \$100,000. The EEC has also recommended \$53,600 in direct grants to 16 schools to support educational enhancement programs.

During the Budget Public Hearing on April 30, 2012, several organizations requested that the Mayor and Council consider funding for their programs beyond what the committees had recommended. At the May 8 Work Session, staff presented an overview of the evaluation and recommendation process the committees used in making their determinations. There was considerable discussion, with the Mayor and Council expressing concern about preserving the integrity of programs that saw funding reductions, adherence to the prescribed grant/RFP process, ramifications if allocations are awarded outside of that process, the purpose of the public hearing to gather additional information, and the role of elected officials in the determination process.

The Mayor and City Council provided the following direction to staff:

- A. Because the EEC has determined that extenuating circumstances may have led to the late submission of a school grant request by Summit Hall Elementary School, the committee is asked to evaluate the school's application for the funding of three programs and make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council if it is determined that a grant(s) is merited.
- B. The Workforce Development/Financial Wellness RFP submitted by Workforce Solutions, the preferred bidder, references collaboration with Spanish Catholic Center. Staff was asked to explore a formal partnership between the two organizations to ensure that a contract reflects appropriate services under the scope of work for the unique populations served by each organization.

- C. Because new outcome information was provided by the BROTHERS program during the public hearing, subsequent to the Committee's grant determination process, the Mayor and Council directed that the EEC take into consideration that and any other information that may be submitted from other youth-based nonprofit organizations prior to the closing of the public record on May 17, 2012. Staff was asked to work with the EEC and re-evaluate the funding recommendations based on this new information, coming back to the Mayor and Council with a recommendation that reflects all data obtained during the full budget process.

II. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before this session of the City Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Britta Monaco, Director
Department of Community & Public Relations