

---

---

## Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 12:00 p.m.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

---

---

### Commission Members:

Crystal Duncan, Annette Evans, Amanda Roberts  
Lawrence “Woody” Widmark, Paul Bahna, Michelle Kavouras  
JJ Carlson (Assembly Liaison)

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Duncan called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Crystal Duncan, Annette Evans , Michelle Kavouras,  
Amanda Roberts, and Paul Bahna

Commissioners Absent: Woody Widmark

Assembly Liaison: JJ Carlson

Staff Present: Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Municipal Clerk

#### III. CORRESPONDENCE /AGENDA CHANGES

None.

#### IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, not to exceed 3 minutes)*

None.

#### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### A. December 18, 2024

**Evans move to approve the minutes of December 18, 2024. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.**

#### VI. REPORTS

Chair – Duncan reported on the newly appointed HNHS Commissioner, Sterling Camden, and wished Amanda Roberts a happy birthday.

Commissioners – None.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – None.

Other(s) – None.

#### VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

#### VIII. NEW BUSINESS

##### B. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair

**Roberts moved to nominate Kavouras as Chair for the HNHS Commission.**

**Motion passed 4-1 by a roll call vote.**  
**Yes- Evans, Roberts, Kavouras, and Duncan**  
**No- Bahna**

**Roberts moved to nominate Evans as Vice Chair for the HNHS Commission.**

**Motion passed 5-0 by a roll call vote.**  
**Yes- Roberts, Evans, Kavouras, Duncan, and Bahna**

**C. Approval of the Reports from the Child Care and Elder Care Working Groups**

Evans commented on the final report, condensed from 8 to 6 recommendations, included proposed amendments to recommendation one, changing "FY26" to "FY27" and "2% excess tax" to "2% tax on alcohol." A typo in recommendation 1C was also pointed out. She thanked the Early Childhood Coalition for their research and data, as well as the City Administrator and Melissa Wileman for their collaboration. She noted that some language changes were based on post-report feedback. Additionally, suggestions were made to narrow the options to a primary recommendation with potential alternatives and discussed whether an ordinance should be drafted first or if an advisory community vote should inform the ordinance language later.

**Kavouras moved to approve the Child Care Final Report. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.**

Discussions were had on focusing on balancing the needs of younger and older populations, particularly through potential revenue from alcohol taxes. It was proposed that excess funds be allocated to elderly services, including creating a part-time or full-time position in the Parks and Recreation department. The Commission emphasized the importance of coordinating care for both seniors and children and collaborating with organizations like the Sitka tribe and Southeast Regional Elder Care (SREC) to host a healthcare day for seniors.

**Roberts moved to approve the Elder Care Final Report. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.**

- XI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** (*For items on or off the agenda, not to exceed 3 minutes*)  
None.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Duncan moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Attest:  
Jess Earnshaw  
Deputy Municipal Clerk