
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Wednesday, July 16, 2025 12:00 p.m.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Crystal Duncan, Annette Evans (via zoom), Michelle Kavouras, Amanda Roberts, Chip Camden, and Wood Widmark (via zoom)

Commissioners Absent:

Assembly Liaison: JJ Carlson

Staff Present: Deputy Municipal Clerk Holley Bayne and Municipal Clerk Sara Peterson

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)*

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 16, 2025

Roberts moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2025. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – Kavouras thanked member Camden for his work and HNHS will have two vacant seats. A youth suicide prevention event will be hosted by Sitka Counseling August 12.

Commissioners – Evans spoke of the purpose of HNHS commission, the childcare report, and assembly members investigating childcare revenue.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – Carlson welcomed Deputy Municipal Clerk Holley Bayne.

Other(s) – None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

B. Discussion on the purpose and role as a commission

Kavouras summarized a meeting with the Clerk's office, Carlson, and Mosher to review the commission's purpose per Chapter 2.30. She emphasized raising awareness, making clear recommendations, attending Assembly meetings, and the opportunity to present HNHS reports at Assembly meetings.

Carlson clarified that "report findings" means sharing what was discovered, not necessarily recommending action. Concerns were raised about not making recommendations to the Assembly, but it was clarified that while the main goal is awareness, recommendations are still possible—but may not result in direct action.

Evans reminded that the Assembly charged the commission to make recommendations on the childcare report and expressed concern that not providing recommendations could add work to the Assembly. She emphasized readiness to move forward and frustration with ordinance funds being diverted.

The difference between staff and Assembly liaisons was clarified and HNHS has no staff liaison. Kavouras suggested holding an in-depth work session with the Assembly the month following the presentation of findings. The mayor would support holding a work session post-goals presentation; however, his term ends in 2026. The commission should decide when to present and aim to schedule a work session by October. Work groups will begin soon, despite the noted two vacant seats which need to be advertised.

- I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD** (*For items on or off the agenda, not to exceed 3 minutes*)
Barbara Morse spoke about the senior center.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Member Camden moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

Attest:
Holley Bayne
Deputy Municipal Clerk