

Old Business:

- A. The Building Committee report was given by Harry A. Yates, where he discussed the various options listed in his report that are available commercially. Due to trouble scheduling Building Committee Members Michael DiTerlizzi and Samia Ferraro for group meetings, Harry reported that the consensus was to give him latitude to move forward with Commercial Realtor Chris Klein and then report back to Council on the progress/findings. According to Harry, the Martin County Administrator will consider selling CSCMC county property; however, he needs to get the Commissions' approval. CSCMC is looking for 25-40 parking spaces and approximately 6,500-8,000 sq. ft. with an additional 1,800 sq. ft. for Healthy Start. Genevieve Guido reported that \$2.5 million is available for a new building.

Laurie Gaylord joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Marian Carpenter would like to see CSCMC staff get on the Martin County Commission Agenda to discuss purchasing county property to build a new CSCMC building and not get into a condo situation, where CSCMC would only own the building and not land, and the maintenance bills are expensive.

Harry recommended signing another lease for five years with the option to back out at the end of three years, which would give time to purchase property, complete county review process, etc. In today's market, Debbie Crowder feels that the landlord should be willing to work with CSCMC. Dr. Sara Wilcox would like CSCMC to sign a less than a five-year lease and have staff aggressively pursue a site away from the high real estate locations on main thoroughfares. Staff agrees; however, some of the off-street sites being offered have inadequate parking.

A motion was made by Dr. Sara Wilcox and seconded by Tony George to renew the rental lease with Southcoast Incorporated of the current CSCMC office building and authorize Harry A. Yates to negotiate with the landlord for a maximum of a three-year lease with the ability to opt out after the second year with reasonable notice to the landlord. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).

Laurie Gaylord recommended that Council come up with a Plan B in case the landlord does not accept these terms. Harry stated that CSCMC is good with our current lease until December 31, 2007.

New Business:

- A. The Center for Child Development's contract transitions were presented by David Heaton, due to the agency filing bankruptcy, which shall affect CSCMC-funded programs: Early Steps and Children's Behavioral Support. Early Steps has been taken over by Florida Department of Health, and they have temporarily contracted with Easter Seals of Florida to work out of the Center for Child Development office. Helping People Succeed (HPS) has agreed to take responsibility for the Children's Behavioral Support Program. These contracts were transitioned without any interruption in service or loss of staff and include the contract conditions that applied in contracts awarded to the Center for Child Development. David thanked Kathy Derringer of HPS and Lori Shamroth-Carver of the Center of Child Development for their assistance. **A motion was made by Marian Carpenter and seconded by Tony George to approve the transition of the Martin County Early Steps Program to Easter Seals of Florida and the Children's Behavioral Support Program to Helping People Succeed, which are currently contracted with the Center for Child Development, effective July 6, 2007, as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).**
- B. The tentative Budget for Fiscal year 2007-08 was given by Genevieve Guido, which applied 97% of the rolled-back millage rate (.3064) for independent, special districts or a millage rate of .2972. This will reduce funding in Support Programs and eliminate Enhancements and New Services. General Government (including personnel and operating expenses) represents only 10.3% of the total CSCMC budget with a projected 1.5% increase. Interest Revenue will be used to fund this portion of the budget, which is normally not done. Collection Fees are anticipated to increase 11%. The majority of the CSCMC budget (88%) is allocated to program services.

Genevieve reviewed all budget schedules in detail for Council's review, including:

- Overall Budget (blue-colored sheet).
- Comparisons of Current and Proposed Budgets (salmon-colored sheet).
- Proposed Revenue Budget (buff-colored sheet).
- Program Services Budget (green-colored sheet).
- Personnel and Operating Expenses (yellow-colored sheets).

Genevieve reported that Council does have an option to increase the millage with a unanimous vote or super majority. Tony requested an explanation on the future Legislation impact in regard to the Council's normal discretion over changing millage. Harry will present a summary for Council's review at the August meeting. Harry apologized for not completing this for the July meeting, but he worked on building issues. Adopting the tentative budget today is required to notify the taxpayers in their TRIM notice.

A motion was made by Tony George and seconded by Dr. Sara Wilcox to approve the tentative, proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2007-08 with a millage of .2972 and budget of \$10,802,658, as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).

- C. The TRIM calendar was presented by Genevieve Guido that included public hearings on September 10 and 24 at 5:30 PM each. The Martin County Property Appraiser must be notified of Council's decision by August 4, 2007. **A motion was made by Samia Ferraro and seconded by Laurie Gaylord to approve the annual TRIM calendar, as presented by staff. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).**
- D. The Auditor's engagement letter was reported by Genevieve Guido to approve a one-year extension to the current contract with Proctor, Crook & Crowder with an increase of \$800. **A motion was made by Samia Ferraro and seconded by Laurie Gaylord to approve a one-year contract extension with the current auditors, Proctor, Crook & Crowder, at a cost of \$16,300, as presented by staff. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).**
- E. The Executive Director Search Committee report was given by Tony George. This committee includes Council Members: Karen Ripper (Chair), Marian Carpenter, Tony George, and Dr. Sara Wilcox and community members: Sue Hershey, Vern Melvin, Robert Stevenson, Donna Hosang, and Patrick Slattery. From the first meeting, the committee requests Council's approval of 3 things:
1) authorization to include a salary range of \$84,000-\$100,000 in the Executive Director's job advertisement in newspapers in major Florida cities, nationally, and locally; 2) authorization to re-address benefits to align them with the rest of staff's benefits; 3) authorization to have the authority to spend up to \$25,000 in the search process to cover advertising and applicant travel. The Search Committee has opted not to hire a head hunter. **A motion was made by Tony George and seconded by Dr. Sara Wilcox to authorize to the Executive Director Search Committee, under Karen Ripper as Chair, a budget of \$25,000 for finding a new Executive Director, as presented. The motion passed unanimously (7-0 vote).**

Staff Reports:

A. Executive Director/Staff Report:

The Executive Director/Staff Report was presented by Harry A. Yates that included the Florida Senate's 2007-08 appropriations for the Treasure Coast. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Martin County was recognized as one of the top three agencies in the nation, and Bill Bee was awarded the Best Executive Director Award in the same competition.

Elizabeth Whittles reported that two of CSCMC's projects received national recognition, which included the Martin County Parks and Recreation Department's Summer Slam Jam Event and the CSCMC Annual Report that was submitted by The Stuart News.

Debbie Crowder wants to keep the lack of African-American participants in the Whole Child Connection on the radar. Elizabeth stated that the site location for one Whole Child staff is being strategically relocated, and their staff is working with Gertrude Walden in East Stuart and will be focusing on Hobe Sound and Port Salerno.

B. Financial Reports:

The financial reports were reported by Genevieve Guido. No Council comments were given.

For Your Information:

Information was reviewed, as submitted by staff.

Public Comments:

Joseph Ascrizzi of Palm City spoke of his continuing objection to CSCMC funding Planned Parenthood. He also spoke of his interpretation of La Promesa on Planned Parenthood's website, which he feels does no more than provide the opportunity to sell the Planned Parenthood philosophy in Spanish. He summarized the content of one or two "white papers" that appear only in Spanish on the Planned Parenthood website; he felt that they were not in English due to the content. Mr. Ascrizzi felt that La Promesa was more suited to adults than children and caters to the needs of illegal immigrants, meaning that more tax dollars are being spent on illegal immigrants.

Council Member Comments:

harry's retirement reception was discussed in detail by Council and staff, including not using taxpayers dollars for the function and having no alcohol. Johnathan Ferguson will work on ethics of using sponsors.

Tony George thanked staff for coming to his baby daughters' funeral. Mr. George spoke of the CSCMC prenatal package, which is provided to all Martin County mothers, who receive the best in comparison to other counties. Through everything in the process that his family dealt with, Mr. George came across the impact of CSCMC operating in this community.

Dr. Sara Wilcox asked about the status of School Health Nurses continuing to be funded by the county. David Heaton reported that the final answer is unknown at this time; however, it was in jeopardy of losing funding, and the county is also contributing a significant amount of money to the Health Department's program for prenatal care. Unfortunately, the county was identifying all of these areas that they could eliminate funding.

Dr. Wilcox feels that it is important to aggressively pursue our options for finding a site and building or finding a site that is already built, and she would like to look into some form of advertising. We should start gathering that information for our next Executive Director. David Heaton reported that our real estate representative put out a brief RFP, which was limited and targeted to organizations that met our conditions. David prepared a draft of a general RFP release that is much more extensive and open than our current search, which can be done in the future; this would come before Council for approval before it is released.

Tony George stated that we need Realtor Chris Klein's engagement, signing as an agent for us, as buyers. When it involves property that they are also listing, Chris Klein would come to CSCMC with a dual listing acknowledgement, so that we understand that his real estate company is on both sides (buyer/seller). David reported that signing such a document would make it exclusive to use only Realtor Chris Klein. Mr. George stated that the commission is almost always charged to the seller, with the buyer's agent splitting it with the seller's agent.

Dr. Sara Wilcox wants CSCMC to ask to be on the meeting agenda for the Martin County Board of County Commissioners to speak about wanting property for a new building to get the word out throughout the community, as these meetings are televised.

As no further discussion existed, the regular meeting was adjourned by Debbie Crowder, Vice Chair, at 11:33 a.m.