The Health Review Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall, 700 N Main, Room 2007A, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

I. Call To Order

II. Conflict Of Interest

III. Acceptance Of Agenda

IV. Approval Of Minutes

IV.I. July 7, 2021 Minutes

Documents:

V. Discussion Items

V.I. Mobile Crisis Unit - Ifo Pili

V.I.I. Survey Update - Human Resources

VI. Action Items

VI.I. Complete Streets Ordinance Presentation - Mahesh Sita

VI.I.I. Meeting Date/Time

VII. Future Discussion/Task Listing

VIII. Next Meeting Date

VIII.I. September 1, 2021

IX. Adjournment

If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 72 hours before the event at 575-541-2115/v or 575-541-2182/tty.

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Health Policy Review Committee Agenda

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7.7.21 HEALTH PRC DRAFT MINUTES.PDF

Discussion Items

Mobile Crisis Unit

- Ifo Pili

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Posted: July 28, 2021
The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the City of Las Cruces – Health Policy Review Committee for July 7, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Members Present:
Yvonne Flores, City Councillor, District 6
Kasandra Gandara, City Councillor, District 1
Tessa Abeyta-Stuve, City Councillor, District 2

Others Present:
Eric Enriquez, Administration
Phil Catanach, Parks & Recreation
Sonya L. Delgado, Parks and Recreation
Paul Ford, LCFD
Lynn Gallagher, Quality of Life
Audrey Barela, Parks & Recreation
Jason Smith, LCFD
Robert McCord, LCPD
Karina Diaz
Meg Haines

I. Call to order: Councilor Abeyta-Stuve
This meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Councilor Abeyta-Stuve.

II. Conflict of Interest
Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked Councilors who are voting members to indicate if there is any conflict of interest. Councilor Flores stated none. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve stated none. Councilor Gandara stated none.

III. Acceptance of Agenda
Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked for a motion to approve the agenda.
Moved by Councilor Flores. Seconded by Councilor Gandara.
None opposed. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked for a motion to approve the minutes from meeting held on June 2, 2021. Moved by Councilor Flores. Seconded by Councilor Gandara.

None opposed. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

V. Discussion Items

A. Dona Ana Crisis Triage Center-Karina Diaz

Ms. Diaz wanted to share information regarding the Crisis Triage Center. It is part of an organization that is wider across the nation called RI International. RI has partnered with Dona Ana County to provide services that the County wanted for the Community. She joined RI in March of 2021 and a lot of preparations were started before then and she has continued them since then. It is a facility that is open 24/7, 365 days a year providing crisis stabilization for the community, mental health/substance abuse any kind of crisis. The longest stay is 24 hours to get them to the next stage of recovery. Opening date was as of June 21st and have been running since. So far there have been a few guests. People who use the services are called guests, not clients or consumers. One nurse per shift along with peer support workers and a clinician and a psychiatrist available to provide telehealth. Triage is started as soon as someone comes through the doors and provide a nursing assessment followed by a psychosocial assessment and then a psychiatric evaluation. The whole-time, peers are engaging guests to de-escalate the crisis and work with them on the goals they have as individuals in their recovery process. Looking forward to partnering.

Councilor Gandara asked if there have been referrals from LCFD/LCPD to the center or if any conversation has been done regarding referrals. Chief Smith stated they have met with their medical director and performed an evaluation of state regulations on ambulance transport and the services provided by the Crisis center, at the time of the initial review before our meeting, under state guidelines he did not feel that the Crisis Triage center rose to the level of meeting what is required for an ambulance transport the way of definitive care, so that limits our option of transporting a patient via ambulance. The Crisis center will be re-evaluated by our medical director, and he gets into a position where he feels comfortable for us transporting, we will update our protocols. As
long as we clear them medically and they agree to go as it is a voluntary basis only. Mr. McCord stated that LCPD does not use the Crisis Triage center is that they do not meet the State statute for protective custody issues. When someone is dropped off, they need to be in a locked facility where they will receive medical care. At this time, they need to be taken to a secured facility and the ER is the only place.

B. Crisis Intervention Unit-Sgt McCord/Paul Ford

Mr. Ford introduced Chandler Mathews, Public Health Intern and Alison Stoner, Social Worker, who works in the Opiate Outreach Program.

Mr. Enriquez stated that the Crisis Intervention Unit was put out for a Request for Proposal if the first time that was not successful with the Fire Department being the lead on that. Chief Smith worked on that RFP with it being posted in May 2021 for 30 days. A pre-proposal meeting was held on June 10, and that went well with many vendors with many questions with the anticipation of many proposals. At the end of the 30 days there were no proposals submitted. The RFP is back to square one with getting a mobile integrated health program that would be consisting of a mental health provider Police and Fire working with them as a team. Some discussion with Chief Smith, with having put a PowerPoint together that I would like him to share.

Chief Smith shared a PowerPoint of Mental Health Services for the City of Las Cruces. After the second round for the RFP and not having any submittals, it was reviewed and after discussion it was thought to be important that we be very specific about the scope of this. With the competing thoughts and ideas on how to perform this function, we need to go out and do a study and determine what our actual experience is in the city. Get a recommendation on how this team should be formed. This will also help in the Budget process also getting buy in from both Fire Department, EMT, Police Department and provider in the Mental Health Community. We have focused on the study and presenting solutions. The RFP was not directly sent to any consulting groups. It has been sent to mental health providers. The RFP allowed for firms to work together to meet intent. Further discussions on options moving forward is that we re-issue the RFP for a third time soliciting research and consulting firms, perform studies in-house and contract out specific roles under purchasing guidelines. Another option is an LCPD Pilot Program not unlike other area Fire Department’s who have Crisis Intervention Team programs. Most consist of a social worker and firefighter paired together. Funding needs are needing backfill and also contracting of a social worker. Some things working to our advantage is we have members in the department for research and study. This may be able to
be done in house with some funding to bringing in a specialist. Cases and efforts would be tracked and brought back to City Council.

Councilor Gandara asked what would be needed to get the Mobile Crisis Unit pilot up and running. Mr. Enriquez first wanted to state that purchasing has reached out to vendors on why there were no submissions. Dr De La Rosa form NMSU was instrumental from the get-go with the RFP, there were several visits with La Clinica on working with them in the future. There were a lot of resources used for the RFP. He also stated that he will work with Purchasing on how to sole source, get a coordinator and work with the Fire Department on getting this program off the ground and build on it from there.

Paul Ford updated the group on some other programs that are very hot topic. The Cahootes program is operated out of organ. The program does use an emergency medical technician paired with a behavioral health specialist. There is a lot of gray area but make up for that with the amount of infrastructure they have. They have different programs and places to transport these patients and resources available to them than we do which proves challenging. He touched on some other programs that are closer to us that have programs similar. One is the Colorado Springs Fire Department which is called the CARES team. It has a social worker, paramedic and police officer. They are clearing patients medically in the field to transport them to definitive care places such as their Crisis Triage center and their Acute Care facility and trying to keep these individuals out of the ER. The City of Santa Fe also has a crisis response team that employs a paramedic, social worker and a police officer and they respond to provide those services. Most of these communities are very unique and have different challenges and the best way to find out what our community needs is through a pilot program.

VI. Action Item
In person meetings to resume in August.

Councilor Gandara asked if there will be some sort of protocol as there are concerns on individuals outside of the City that may or may not be vaccinated coming into the office. Councilor Abeyta-Stuve stated that any protocol adopted by Council she will adopt for PRC’s. As of now it looks now, if you are vaccinated, masking is optional. If not vaccinated mask is required.

Councilor Abeyta-Stuve asked for a motion to approve the motion on resuming in person meeting of the Health PRC as of August 2021. Moved by Councilor Flores. Seconded by Councilor Gandara.

None opposed. All in favor. Motion carried.

VII. Future Task Listing/Discussion Items
VIII. Next Meeting Dates

August 4, 2021 @ 3:00 pm

IX. Adjournment: 5:21 p.m.

___________________
Chair

Approved: ____________________