

City of Cambridge

The Human Services and Youth Committee conducted a public hearing on Wednesday, January 30, 1991 beginning at 12:16 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber, City Hall.

Councillor Jonathan S. Myers, Chair of the above referenced Committee convened the hearing and stated that the purpose of discussions would focus on what future steps would be taken after the Committee received public testimony at the February 7, 1991 hearing regarding a comprehensive human service policy. Present at the hearing were Assistant City Manager for Human Services Jill Herold and Deputy City Clerk John E. Flynn.

Ms. Herold outlined to the Committee a series of data collection techniques to be employed in the development of the "Cambridge Plan". This Plan would serve as a tool for use by the City Council towards the development of a comprehensive human service delivery policy. The follow-up steps identified were as follows:

- 1) An agency survey - 140 human service providers participating - outlining changes facing each provider in the delivery of services;
- 2) City Council Committee on Human Services and Youth public hearing (February 7, 1991) - public testimony solicited identifying gaps in the human service delivery system;
- 3) Random telephone survey - information and feedback for the general public;
- 4) Planning Staff - collection of previous needs assessments;
- 5) Neighborhood Based Focus Group; and,
- 6) Local version of The Kennedy School of Government "Executive Session" Program - Client focused - Consumer focused Program.

Councillor Myers inquired of the role of the Strategic Planning Committee, a small group of agency directors representing different services and communities, in the follow-up process.

Ms. Herold in response stated that the Committee would serve in an advisory and participatory role to the City Council Committee in the development of a comprehensive human service policy.

Councillor Myers stated that the data collection process, although a time consuming one,

would identify changing priorities and needs of the community along with reviewing such avenues as collaboration, consolidation and expansion. He stated further the need to incorporate the responses of the community throughout the various follow-up steps outline earlier.

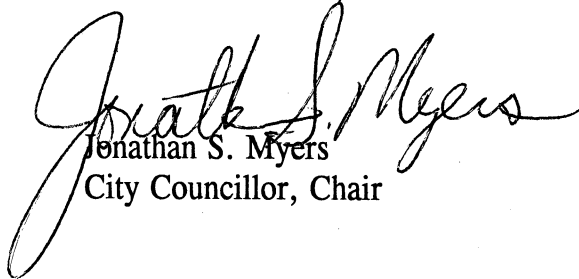
Councillor Myers questioned the level of interaction between the Council Committee and Human Service departmental staff in the on-going process.

Ms. Herold in response stated that status reports and updates would be provided on an ongoing basis.

Councillor Myers thanked Ms. Herold for her efforts to date in this review process.

The hearing adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

For the Committee,



Jonathan S. Myers
City Councillor, Chair

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Human Services and Youth Committee Report
for a hearing held on January 30, 1991
relative to the future steps to be taken by
the committee after receipt of public
testimony regarding a comprehensive human
service policy.

In City Council,

February 11, 1991

Report accepted

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Placed on file