

The Human Services and Youth Committee conducted an informal organizational public meeting on Monday, January 29, 1990 beginning at 4:05 p. m. in the Ackermann Room, City Hall.

The purpose of this session was to identify the committee's short and long term goals and objectives for the Council term.

Councillor Jonathan S. Myers, Chair of the above referenced committee, convened the hearing and stated that the scope of the committee's work would be two fold: 1. to develop recommendations for possible inclusion in the fiscal year 1991 operating municipal budget and 2. develop long range strategies for implementation over time to affect the delivery of services and quality of life of Cambridge residents.

Councillor Myers identified three areas in which the Committee would focus on and make recommendations to the full City Council for discussion and possible implementation:

1. Youth Employment
2. Evaluation/Community Assessment of the Department of Human Service Programs and
3. Youth in crisis.

Councillor Myers further explained to the committee his belief that by enhancing the possibilities of providing opportunities for employment the drop-out rate in the public school system would be affected in a positive manner. The committee would work very closely with the Superintendent of Schools and other appropriate school officials in developing such a component as part of an overall policy on the dropout rate.

Councillor Duehay questioned the evaluation mechanism to be used to measure the success or lack of success the City is experiencing in meeting the needs of the citizenry. Councillor Myers responded it was his intention for the evaluation process to make the general public aware of the services and programs that are offered.

On the third subject matter, youth in crisis, the committee agreed that there currently exists in neighborhoods throughout the city the need to eliminate the feelings of alienation that some youth are experiencing and living with. This subject matter would require immediate as well as long term solutions.

The first steps to be taken in the area of youth employment would be a compilation and description of all employment plans currently in place both in the public and private sector.

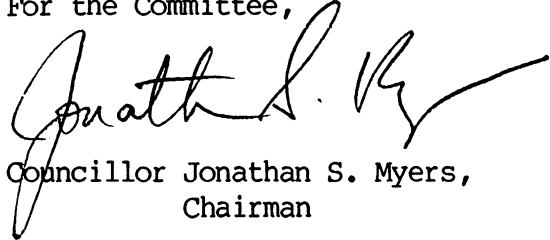
In another area of discussion Councillor Toomey stated that it was his hope given the growing problems associated with drugs that the School Committee and the City Council not cut funding for the Substance Abuse Program and the Winning Edge Program at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

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Councillor Duehay also urged the committee to lobby the Legislature against proposed Human Services cuts for the fiscal year 1991.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan S. Myers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Councillor Jonathan S. Myers,  
Chairman

1. Cal #3  
COMMITTEE REPORTS

S-147

Comm. from John E. Flynn, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Myers, Chairman, Committee on Human Services and Youth, relative to a hearing held on Monday, January 29, 1990 outlining the scope of the committee work being two fold: 1. to develop recommendations for possible inclusion in the operating municipal budget and to develop long range strategies for the implementation over time to affect the delivery of services and quality of life of Cambridge residents.

In City Council,

February 5, 1990

Charter Right  
exercised by  
Councillor Walsh

2/12/90 Report accepted  
and placed on file