

ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, at 5:15 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, Johnson, Bynum, and Kane. The following officials were also in attendance: Gordon Criswell, Joe Connor and Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrators; Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk; Ryan Carpenter, Legal; Alan Howze, Chief Knowledge Officer; Lindsay Behgam, Executive Coordinator to the Mayor; Emerick Cross, Commission Liaison; Rob Richardson, Director of Planning; and Doug Bailey, Sergeant-At-Arms.

Chairman Markley called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Markley said revisions have been made to tonight's agenda. First, a blue sheet was distributed last Friday with a revised charter ordinance relating to the election of BPU Board members; and tonight a pink sheet was circulated providing additional information regarding the UG-Hollywood Casino grant process and adding a new item which is a resolution supporting the efforts of the Greater Kansas City Coalition to end homelessness.

Approval of standing committee minutes from October 24, 2016. **On motion of Commissioner Bynum, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, the minutes were approved.** Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Markley said we're going to revise our agenda just a little bit today. Item No. 5, we're going to move up and handle under Item #1. So we're going to start with Item #1 as planned and then we'll do Item No. 5 and then we'll go back and do 2, 3 and 4.

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Committee Agenda

Item No. 1 – 16930... PRESENTATION: BOARDSYNC E-VOTING

Synopsis: Presentation on BoardSync's e-voting module of the Agenda Management System, submitted by Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk.

Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk, said within our BoardSync application, there's a module that's called e-voting. What e-voting allows is that commissioners at the full commission meeting, you would have the opportunity to vote electronically. With us online tonight is Doug. He is going to do a demonstration on the product so you can be aware of it. Tonight, our goal is to show it to the Commission and to seek advice or direction if this is something the Commission would like for us to advance.

Doug Shumway, NextRequest, said what we are going to look at is how the system works, specifically for the council members, board members as well as the public. This can be pre-meeting, during meeting and post-meeting because it's all tied together. The public needs to see the votes that happen. The board members need to know how they actually voted with the system. That's what we want to show you today and again, this comes already with an actual application you have today. It's really your choice. Does it make sense for you and your community?

What you're looking at right here is our board portal. This is an area that the board members, council members, committee members, whoever would have access to, to view their meetings. I want to point out a couple of quick things about this. If I resize this, you'll see how it automatically adjusts. You do have access to your meeting content, which could be the agendas, the packets, the items, supporting documents and the minutes; all of that material from any device. If you do have a desktop at home or a laptop or use a different machine at work, even your phone, you have access to all of your meeting content from any location.

We have a meeting here called the regular public meeting. Again, this is an example of how it can work for you. This is where you can actually view the agenda the way we have your system set up. If you do want to download the agenda or download the packet because you want to print some of it out or you want to take it somewhere with you, you still have the access to get the pdf files. You do have access to those immediately. You can see all the items on the agenda.

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If you want to click on one, it takes you to the details and this is where you can see a little bit of information about what it is, who submitted it, what the recommended action is, and also, be able to see those supporting documents right here; to be able to review those. You'll have complete access to all the packet materials. You can even add your own notes right here about this particular item or whatever it may be. You can actually add quick notes here. Again, these are your private notes for your use and it automatically saves it as you type so you don't have to worry about that.

Why our customers like using this versus just having a pdf packet available to them? A couple of reasons. You have topics that come up that may span across multiple meetings. You may want to do research and say okay, what actions did we take in the past. What were the discussion points in the past? You can actually come in here and actually do a key word search. You can actually search on a certain topic, a certain issue and see all the meetings that match that particular key word or topic. You can see everything right here and it can actually span across multiple meetings.

The pre-meeting, you have access to all this. During meeting, that's where the electronic voting comes into play. Let's just go back out here and what happens is the Clerk, or whoever is the administrator of that meeting, will be able to control and run the meeting typically like you're doing today with the roll call votes and things like that.

Now, let's talk about what you guys would do. What I'm going to do is turn on the electronic voting. You're going to see something pop up right here that says join meeting. This is how you would actually join this meeting. You click join meeting. Then you enter your roll call. Typically, you're going to be present voting. Select present voting and save. You are now in the system ready to go. No other actions are required.

Again, you can actually be on any device. If you do want to use a tablet or you want to use a laptop, not an issue. Likewise, because you might have to be remote sometimes because you may not be able to attend the meeting, this is still accessible to you from any location. You can even vote from any location considering it's approved based on your bylaws.

Right here we're in the meeting. We're ready to go. What happens is you can actually see the current item at the bottom. Right now it says the current item is call to order. You can see the details. I'm going to skip ahead to an item and set that as the current item. You can always see what the current item is being discussed. You see it changed right here. You always know.

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Now, for the people sitting in the room and as far as the audience, I know you guys have a presentation monitor, if you want to, we'd have what's called display pages. Basically, they're dedicated pages. We can work with IT. It's very simple to set this up so the audience in the room can see the current item being discussed. If somebody comes late to the meeting, they can see they are on current Item No. 1 of the agenda about the agenda management solution. They can actually be kept in the loop of where we are in the process at the meeting. It's actually designed to be on very large monitors that are typically on the walls of a chamber.

Let's switch back. I'm going to show you back over here—again, if you want to see this item, I can actually hit detail. That takes me to details. You can skip around; you can do whatever you want. If you don't want to mess with this during the meeting, you just want to see all your notes in one spot, you can hit notes and it shows you all your notes for that meeting in one area.

Let's say you guys do a motion and now it's time to initiate a vote. I'm going to go ahead and start a vote. If I hit start a vote here, you're going to see what happens is, I have to make a selection. I can't do anything else until I vote on this current item. Now, it gives me options here. I can say yes, no or I can abstain if I want to abstain from the vote. I'm going to go ahead and say I am for this particular one. I would hit save or yes, and send this out and now my vote has been registered. The person running the meeting, the Clerk, can see that your vote came in. Everybody can vote at the same time, simultaneously.

If you want to actually be able to do a voice vote at the same time, it's possible to do voice vote at the same time you do electronic votes. That's more of a process that you guys determine what's best for you.

I'm going to go ahead and enter the rest of the votes in here, close this vote out, and based on the passed role, I'm going to mark this as passed. Now, what happens is, again, for the people in the room, we're going to show on the pages of how everybody voted and whether it passed or not so, again, the people in the room can see exactly how they voted for it and also the results. That keeps track of all that. That's how fast it is to do a vote. The Clerk initiates it, you say yes, no or abstain, pretty much the same thing you're doing today with a voice vote, and then it gets logged and recorded. Then you move on to the next item.

Now, let's talk about post meetings. You may want to do some research into a particular meeting. I think we've talked about this topic before, maybe about the casino, I heard earlier

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when they were doing introductions. I think we talked about this topic before. What happened? That's what the benefit of this is, you can go back into the minutes area here, and say okay, what did we do for this particular item. You could actually see all the motions that happened and also how you guys voted for it as well, and the comments discussed comes straight out of your minutes. It's all right here for you to be able to do the research and see the results. Same thing with the public. Let me switch over real fast. The public can actually go out to your website and be able to actually see different meetings.

Here is a customer I brought up. If I click on, let's take a look at what happened on this regular public meeting, I can open this up and actually see all the items and staff reports. The public can see what motions and also what votes happened on this particular item. It shows how each of you voted for that particular initiative. They can see it next day, two days, three days, it's really up to you, or even two years from now be able to go back and see that.

We're trying to provide you materials to review the content before the meeting. During the meeting process, try to be as transparent as possible as far as making it really simple for you. Just hit yes, no or abstain. Also, instantly showing the results to the public when the votes happen.

That's really the different pieces of the system as far as electronic voting and being able to review that and see that.

Chairman Bynum said a lot of times, especially with planning and zoning items, we will approve something but we've added a variety of stipulations. How will the system capture changes that are made to the agenda item like for the public seeing? We're voting on that but we've modified it slightly from what was presented in the packet?

Mr. Shumway said there are a couple of different answers built into that. First of all, you can actually have multiple motions and multiple votes on a single item. You might start a discussion and then you end up somewhere else with another motion and another vote. You can do multiple motion/multiple votes. Second of all, what happens is, as far as the minutes go, there are tools built in for the Clerk. For example, we can prepopulate some of the content, maybe the motion language, and then it can be edited and updated within the actual notes in the minutes. The minutes, we try to automate as much as possible, but still this is what happened, this is what changed, working that, we'll go into it and show that.

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Commissioner Philbrook said so, sir, being technology ignorant, all that nice medium blue that you have up there is not a good color. If you can make that some other color so it's much easier to read. **Mr. Shumway** said whatever color you want. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I know that may sound picky but when you're trying to flip through a bunch of documents and try to see what's going on, it makes it a whole lot easier if you can read it. You can work on that just not that color. **Mr. Shumway** said again, like I said, that's a customizable setting so you can pick what color that makes the best sense for you.

Commissioner Kane said I'm not color blind, but if you were color blind, that would be an issue. Did somebody ask for this? **Chairman Markley** said I think that's why we're discussing it today because we have this option as part of the package we already own. It's available to us now. Staff didn't know if we would like to try it or not. That's what we're here to discuss today. **Commissioner Kane** said I don't want to try it.

Chairman Markley said I will say, I love the interactivity of it. I like being able to search old minutes and those sorts of things. I will say, if I were a new commissioner coming in, the sort of normal system of look at your agenda and do the voice vote, you can kind of do that with no training. This would take some additional training. With commissioners coming in and out over the years, some have more technological expertise than others. I could see where a new commissioner, especially if they weren't someone who was used to using a computer a lot, would be kind of overwhelmed by figuring all of this out. I do love the interactive nature of it and being able to look at your minutes in a different way and flip through things more easily and all that kind of stuff. **Commissioner Kane** said even an old commissioner doesn't want to do it.

Commissioner Johnson asked is there a precedent for this type of technology that is perhaps used with other municipalities. Are there any local or regional municipalities that are currently using it and finding any kind of results with that? **Ms. Cobbins** said I'm not aware of any local governments but I do know that the State of Kansas uses some type of a system that's comparable to this. I'm not sure what the name of the software is but to my knowledge, there aren't any local municipalities that are actually using this type of enhancement.

When we purchased the software, that was just an enhancement to it. When we started with BoardSync, as you're aware, we got the emails, we're underway, it's working successfully. We wanted to give it time to see if this would be something that the Commission would be interested in as opposed to starting the whole process at the very beginning.

We've had an opportunity to have BoardSync in our system and we've been able to use it on a daily basis. It's been pretty successful. We haven't had any complaints about it. We've had some tweaking and some enhancements on the day-to-day. This was just one component of it that we wanted to bring to the body to see if there was interest in it because it is an enhancement that we currently have as an option.

Commissioner Philbrook asked so does that mean that there's no additional charge as an option. **Ms. Cobbins** said there would be an additional charge as an option. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I just thought I'd ask; an option and more money. I really like the system. Yes, it would really be different for us. I would tell you that if we were to do this, that you would definitely have to give us training on it and how to maneuver around it. Yes, at first it would be kind of a pain but I think once you could get used to it, there are so many options on there to get information so quickly to know what happened in past meetings and so on. I think it would really be helpful. I know I have trouble a lot of times keeping up with all the stuff that we do. That could really be helpful to me.

Commissioner Bynum said one thing I wonder about, as I was watching him demonstrate, is when I accidentally hit the wrong vote. I think we would want to have a discussion around how long do I have before I say hey, I meant to say yes and I said no. That would happen at some point. I think if you waited until after all the votes were counted and then you say, I meant to say yes when I said no. I think that could be problematic.

Chairman Markley said I also think the voting, obviously with the voice vote, we vote in an order. This would allow us to vote simultaneously, which I think is both a good and a bad thing. For planning and zoning items, for me, that would be hard. A lot of times if the district commissioner votes ahead of me and I don't really care if there is an extra horse in this persons yard or not, but that district commissioner, whoever it might be... **Commissioner Philbrook** said

has done their homework. **Chairman Markley** said yes. They know the neighborhood better and they know that it's not suitable for that neighborhood in a way that I might not know because it's not my neighborhood. I want to know what they think, particularly for planning and zoning. For me, I like the voice vote. I like knowing what the other commissioners think about how that fits into the neighborhood that they maybe live closer to than I do. We talked about incorporating the voice vote into it but it's still, to me, a little weird to try to incorporate the voice vote and then hit the vote. Would you wait until you did your voice vote before you hit it, or would you all hit it at once and then do the voice vote because that would be kind of pointless. I don't know. That would be an interesting twist as well.

Commissioner Philbrook said I think this is kind of logistics that probably could be worked out I would think. Yes, I agree with what you're saying too. Our system does help because that way we get to hear what that commissioner feels about their area because they do their homework for their area. We all have our own homework for each district and that does make a big difference. I want to know what's going on with the other folks so I know where things line. That would be about the only issue that I have with it.

Commissioner Johnson said as a matter of process though, the in-district commissioner does not always cast the first vote. **Commissioner Philbrook** said not always. **Commissioner Johnson** said as I think about our normal conversations, we pretty much know before we vote what that in-district, and also the at-large district, opinion is on most of the votes that we have.

The voting part I can go either way with. I think the thing I liked about it was the ability to pull notes and previous information. There are times that I can't remember what happened a year or so ago or whatever. To be able to pull the information and have a log of what was said or what was done, or maybe if I made some notes to have a helpful reminder to me, I could see that as a benefit.

The voting piece, I probably can go either way on it. That would depend on how much it cost.

Chairman Markley said so you mentioned additional cost. Could you elaborate on that? **Ms. Cobbins** said I didn't bring that with me, I'm so sorry. I can get that information to you.

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Chairman Markley asked can you ballpark. Is it like tens of thousands, or eight thousand? **Ms. Cobbins** said no, it's not tens of thousands. If I had to guess, maybe \$1,200, somewhere in that ballpark if I had to guess. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked \$1,200 for what. **Ms. Cobbins** said just for the enhancement, for the e-voting component. **Commissioner Philbrook** said that's not something that occurs over and over again; it's just implementing it. **Ms. Cobbins** said yearly, that would be the charge for it. **Commissioner Philbrook** said an extra \$1,200 a year. **Ms. Cobbins** said correct.

Chairman Markley said so what Bridgette really needs from us, I think, is a feel for whether this group thinks it is worth pursuing this, whether we think we need to get opinions from the other commissioners how do we feel. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I think all commissioners should be in on this one. **Chairman Markley** said we know Mike Kane's position. He is very clear.

Commissioner Bynum said my position is, if we were to implement it, I would learn to use is. That's the bottom line. **Chairman Markley** said that's what I'm concerned about. I'm thinking we would all have to have at least that level of buy-in. If we weren't going to be super excited about it, we'd at least have to be sort of forced into it. I don't know staff how you think this should proceed procedurally, but I'm wondering if the other commissioners should hear this before we tell Bridgett to do a bunch of work and the other five say absolutely not. Like Mike Kane, I never want to do that.

Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator, said I believe when we discussed this ahead of it coming to standing committee, we felt that this was a possible recommendation from the group. If you'd like the buy-in of all the commissioners, we'd be happy to bring that forward to them because it is a change. It does create some inherent efficiencies as you've noted, but it does change also the culture of how the Commission votes. We'd be happy to bring it forward to the full body for you.

Action: For information only.

Chairman Markley said as mentioned previously, we are going to skip forward to Item No. 5.

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Item No. 5 – 17006... DISCUSSION: TRANSCRIPTION OF MINUTES

Synopsis: Discussion on what style of minutes should be followed when transcribing the following following meetings: Planning and Zoning, Full Commission, and Standing Committee, submitted by Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator.

Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator, said I have two of my staff here tonight on an item that was brought before you. There wasn't a lot of information on the blue sheet, but I did want to go over a handout that I've presented to you tonight just to kind of clear things up. We're looking at options to change how we produce minutes for the Planning Commission specifically.

As you are aware, Bridgette and her team produce minutes for standing committees, special sessions, full commission and other significant meetings for the Unified Government. Planning Commission, the sole responsibility is on one staff person in that department. Bridgette has a team of folks who spend a lot of time doing the same type of work.

What we're trying to decide, with your help, is if we can possibly seek a new way of doing those. Luckily, Rob was able to get the Mid-America Regional Council to do a poll for us so that we could provide you some data. What we've found out is that we are one of the few responding municipalities that actually still completes verbatim style minutes.

What we are doing, as you are aware, we do mp3 recordings currently for everything. For the Commission, at this point, and also standing committee and special sessions, we have our YouTube videos. We do not have that for Planning Commission currently. Starting later this year, due to 2017 funding for a new position, we will be able to implement the YouTube videos for Planning Commission as well which was something that you were interested in. I know that our public communications team is working hard to get towards that.

Our proposal is, if you're interested, we'd like to start for just Planning Commission trying to provide a brief explanation of the case, which we do a really good job at, a record of the motions, the votes, and those speaking in favor and against so it's clear who was where. I know that's critical as we were just having our previous discussion, which is why I wanted this item to follow, and any stipulations in reference to the appropriate components of either the mp3, the wave file, that we could put out there or the YouTube video as it becomes available.

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We have a choice where we can wait until YouTube is available or we can start it with using only the mp3s. There are ways to tag YouTube videos for those of you who are out using YouTube all the time. You've seen that you can jump to previous places. I've worked as an assistant. We actually tagged the videos so people can get to a specific item more quickly. I believe our BoardSync system allows us to be able to do that as well.

More features that we were talking about again, but hopefully this would help with some of our staffing constraints within the Planning Department at this time and still meet the spirit and intent of the law. I know Patrick Waters, who works with our Planning Commission, did check into this and made sure we weren't outside of our boundaries looking at this. He noted, as I was keenly aware from having been a clerk in a former life, that we are only required to do summary minutes. Most places do more than that, as you can see, but not maybe the full verbatim versions that we do.

Rob Richardson, Director of Planning, said they are near verbatim. Verbatim is like what you'd have from a court reporter. **Ms. Mundt** said yes, that's a difference, yes. **Mr. Richardson** said when people misspeak, Janet cleans it up. If somebody pauses, and says uh or um, all that goes away. It's close, but it's not verbatim. There is a technical difference, especially when the attorneys look at it.

Commissioner Kane said I would support this change. I think they work too hard and I wait until it comes out anyway to see what I actually said. Sometimes we get a little emotional when we're talking. Right? **Chairman Markley** said maybe they clean you up too, Mike. **Commissioner Kane** said I would think it would be just as good doing it the way you guys are talking about and a heck of a lot easier on our staff.

Commissioner Bynum said I would support it as well. Two questions really. I know that you surveyed the other communities, but have you had conversations with people that most often come to you wanting some section of information from minutes especially a Planning and Zoning meeting? Have those people said that this would be workable for what they're looking for? **Mr. Richardson** said most of the people that ask me for minutes, quite frankly, are attorneys and this would be no problem for them.

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Commissioner Bynum said the second question is, does this speed up the time between when the meeting occurred and when I can find the minutes online. **Mr. Richardson** said the way the Planning Commission minutes work, is that the minutes that the Board of Commissioners get in your packet are draft minutes because they have not been approved by the Planning Commission yet. Once they are approved by the Planning Commission, then we will put them online. This will allow you to watch the video or listen to the mp3 of what actually happened. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked immediately. **Mr. Richardson** said when your packet comes out, there will be a hyperlink in the electronic version of it that would allow you to go to the YouTube or the mp3.

We still have some technical stuff to work out on this. I didn't want to go through all that unless you all were in favor of doing this. You all are quite frankly the primary users of the minutes initially. Since they're in draft form, I think this is even better because that way you see what and hear what was actually said. **Commissioner Bynum** said so really, it wouldn't matter if those particular minutes had been approved because they would be available in a draft form quickly. **Mr. Richardson** said correct.

Chairman Markley said I think what's interesting is I don't know about you guys, but I think a lot of the commissioners have kind of already—you said we're the users of the minutes. For the most part, it's us that are looking at the minutes. Many of us, I think, have already made that jump to where we're going to the YouTube video. We're like, what happened at that meeting? Let me go to the YouTube video. I think we sort have already made that jump and how we're doing some of our research. We just haven't made that jump officially in terms of how we handle our minutes.

I support this also. The biggest thing I was interested in seeing was whether there was precedent for this in some of our other communities around here and how they're handling it. It looks like clearly, the majority of them are already doing this and maybe doing this without even the link the way that we're talking about. I'm very supportive.

Commissioner Johnson asked will there be any interaction between the minutes from the Planning Commission and the Clerk's Office. How will they interact together? **Mr. Richardson** said currently, our minutes are pretty much independent of the Clerk's Office

because our minutes are produced and put in the staff reports and they come to you. We keep our own records of the minutes. With the new webpage coming out, we're going to work on a SharePoint system where when we put a set of minutes into a file, it automatically populates the website. This spring, let's say that should happen. All of our minutes that we have right now, the links are broken from previous versions of the website, don't work. They broke all those links. I didn't have the 400 hours it would take to repopulate those. We will be using that SharePoint system to put those in automatically in addition to cataloging the YouTube. The minutes would be much shorter, and then within those minutes would be the YouTube and/or the mp3 link to the tagged video or wave file. Those are kept internally in the Planning Department.

Ms. Mundt said one thing I do want to—Bridgette has brought up, just to be fair, why we are looking at Planning Commission first. One, mediums have changed. I can guarantee you that if we started reciting the different ways we've listened to music over the last 50/60 years, it would be interesting to see how many of us can play every version at our own homes today. That's one thing. I know that from a clerk's perspective, we're worried about how we handle that. That's why not going to the yes/no vote version wasn't something that we felt comfortable with even at the Planning Commission level. We want to experiment with how you feel about this Planning Commission for a period of time before we would even consider it at the Clerk's level at this point.

We'll want to come back, one, with kind of a policy around some of the questions you were asking, Commissioner Bynum, of how quickly will we be able to try and prepare these to get them out. The other thing is, we do not know when we will have YouTube for the Planning Commission available. Questions, are you okay with starting out with the simple mp3 file without the YouTube backup? Again, that's something that our staff and our Public Information Office has to get to because they're currently not on YouTube. They will be this year, but they're currently not videoed.

Chairman Markley asked when you link to the mp3 file, would you just link to the whole file or would you say you can find this in minutes blah, blah. **Mr. Richardson** said we could at least say go to minute, we could at least do that. We might be able to even tag it so that it jumps, but I'm not the technology guy. We can at least give you what minute and second each case started.

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Chairman Markley said I would be comfortable with that. What I wouldn't be comfortable with is making the person watch the whole four hours of meeting to find the one vote that they were looking for. As long as we can give them the minute where they can go to the mp3 file and fast forward to what they want to hear, I think that, that is fine, personally. **Mr. Richardson** said I think we would say when the case was called and when the vote began for each case. **Chairman Markley** said lovely. **Mr. Richardson** said some people would want to just hear the motion. We would start with the motion and go from that point so that you can hear that, the end of the case. **Ms. Mundt** asked is that the consensus then. **Commissioner Bynum** said yes. **Chairman Markley** said there is a nodding of heads.

Commissioner Philbrook said I'll come in for training, no problem.

Ms. Mundt said what we'll look to do is we'll look to move forward with that. We'll bring back some policy guidance that we've developed around sort of how Janet, who's Rob's assistant, will do that. We'll look at how that works. We'll run that past Bridgette, in the Clerk's Office, just to make sure they're comfortable when answering questions before we bring it back to you on that. We will try to have this in place by the first of March is kind of the goal. Rob's got a couple of really loaded agendas coming up. The sooner I can get that in, the sooner I can free up his staff to do some other things for the Unified Government which you would probably appreciate.

Action: For information only.

Item No. 2 – 17003...CHARTER ORDINANCE: MOVING ELECTIONS FOR BPU BOARD MEMBERS

Synopsis: A charter ordinance amending Sections 5 and 7 of Charter Ordinance CO-5-01, moving elections for BPU Board members to November in odd numbered years, submitted by Ryan Carpenter, Legal.

Ryan Carpenter, Legal, said if you recall, we brought the local election ordinance, I want to say, May of last year, spring or early summer. It's the same thing. The BPU election

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information is found in a charter ordinance. We're doing the same thing here, extending the terms of the incumbents to comply with the legislation, setting the primary election for the first Tuesday in August as set forth in the statute. The general election then is the first Tuesday succeeding the first Monday; specified that they're non-partisan. That's all we're here for today. It's a charter ordinance. It needs to be published twice. It needs to be passed by two-thirds, of the Commission and there is a 60-day protest period. That's all taken care of in here, and that's what we're here for today.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Item No. 3 – 17004... UPDATE: STARTUP VILLAGE

Synopsis: Update by Adam Arredondo, Co-Founder/Director of Entrepreneurship, on the activities and objectives of the Startup Village and KC Startup Foundation and how they support and connect to the UG priorities, submitted by Alan Howze, Chief Knowledge Officer.

Alan Howze, Chief Knowledge Officer, said we have a hard copy of the presentation that you'll see this evening coming around to you. The folks watching at home will be able to view as well. I want to bring back to you this evening a presentation from the Kansas City Startup Foundation. As you may recall, they spoke on a different topic in the fall to the full Commission about the MECA Challenge and their engagement with students. There were some interests and discussion around that and wanted to bring them back for a broader update about the activities that they're engaged in, in the community and the broader region.

We have with us this evening, Matthew Marcus, who's the Executive Director of the Kansas City Startup Foundation, and Adam Arredondo, who is the Director of the Board for the Kansas City Startup Foundation.

Adam Arredondo, Director of the Kansas City Startup Foundation, said we're excited to be here and give you guys an update. For those of you that have been on the Commission for a while, we've been here a couple of times talking about the Kansas City Startup Village back in

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the day when we were having some growing pains as we may remember. We're excited to give you an update. We've grown up a lot. There's a lot of exciting stuff to report and just really want to get you up to speed so that as things happen, you all are aware of it. I'll let Marcus start with just an update on the history of the Village for those that don't know.



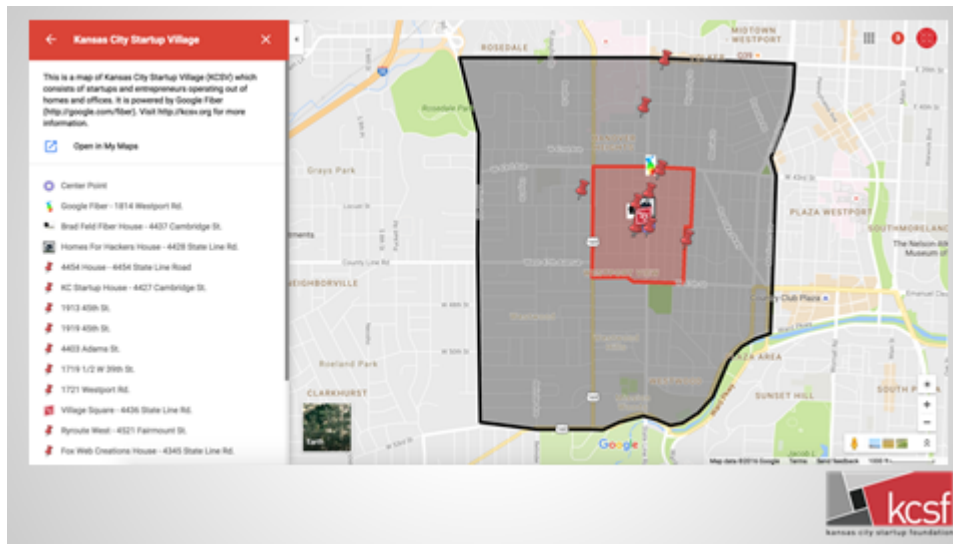
Matthew Marcus, Executive Director of the Kansas City Startup Foundation, said we've grown up but we still wear t-shirts. Just a brief history. We know our time is short with you all so we'll keep it kind of on point.

Essentially, with the Village, late 2012, a string of serendipitous events took place which led to the formation of what is now known as the Village. Essentially, three properties came online with startup activity, in about a half block from one another, and what became the first neighborhood in the world to get Google Fiber without any planning. This slide here kind of represents those three properties. We had six startups in them.

It was September 30, 2012, that one of those startup founders emailed the rest of us and said hey, something really cool is happening here; maybe we should get intentional and call it something and see if we get some more entrepreneurs to join us. That's essentially what happened.

You fast forward to today and it's kind of gone through the iterations of the number of properties that have been a part of the Village.

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It's important to note that the Kansas City Startup Village isn't a business. It doesn't own any of these properties. It really is just a representative community of startups and entrepreneurs in a specific part of Kansas City. You can see here in this map, we probably should zoom in. It is a live map so if you go to our website, you can kind of navigate around it. The center point of the Village is at 45th and State Line. Right now, I think we have 14 or 15 properties, which are part of the Village. You can see that there is a dense area right there in the middle and then they kind of start to span out. Roughly, the Village is about a square mile in size.

Properties: 15

Startups: 51

- Current: 24
- Graduated: 18
- Failed: 9

Jobs Created: 100+

Talent: 15+ states

Funding: \$20M+

Visitors: 5,000+

- Politicians
- Media
- Students
- Corporate execs
- Foreign delegates (85+ countries)
- VIPs

**KANSAS CITY
STARTUP VILLAGE**
- SETTLED 2012 -

CNN AP

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

VentureBeat

The New York Times

FASTCOMPANY

The Washington Post

Mashable Inc.

STARTLAND
Kansas City's Home for Innovation Week

ars

kcsf
Kansas city startup foundation

A few metrics and just kind of some of our accolades over the years. Currently we have about 15 properties that are part of the Village. It started with three then it grew to five and then seven. Now we are at a nice number there. The number of startups that have gone through the Village,

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that are either participating in it right now or have come and gone for a variety of reasons, totaled about 51. Currently, we got 24. There's a lot happening. The number 12 that had moved on for a variety of reasons, maybe other opportunities in the city or in other cities, it happens. Failure happens as well. We've had nine fail, but the number that we like the most is that graduated number which essentially means that the company has started small but has grown to the point where the Village just doesn't suffice for sizing. They've created more jobs, taken on more money, and we've found other places in the city for them to continue growing. That's something that we're really proud of.

Jobs created, it's really tough to track every job because we don't monitor it specifically but definitely over a hundred have been created which is a good thing for the city.

Talent, the Village, over the years has had its share of media attention to say the least. Because of that, it's spread far and wide, internationally to be exact. It literally has recruited talent from other states to be a part of our community, to be in Kansas City and to continue growing and starting their startups. That's neat. Funding, that's funding for the startups.

How much money that they've raised over the years. Again, another metric that could be tough to track, but by our estimates and calculations, over \$20M and its growing which is definitely exciting.

Visitors, the Village has been this kind of unique attraction piece for Kansas City. A lot of people, including foreigners, come to see what's going on in Kansas City, specifically in the Village. We've been happy to welcome over 5,000 visitors, including, politicians at all different levels, and media, including international media. You can see some of the top media, there on the right. Students were really big fans of inviting students to come to the Village, see the entrepreneurs hard at work and learn from them and hear their stories. Corporate executives, of course, foreign delegates, I mentioned that. VIPs, we've had Alexis Ohanian of Reddit. He just got engaged to Serena Williams so you might know him now. A number of VIPs, Steve Case, founder of AOL, the list goes on. That's exciting.

Mr. Arredondo said one of the things I'll say with the Village is, it's hard to see with it zoomed in on the map, a lot of the action is on the Kansas side which is in the southeast corner of Wyandotte County. A lot of the action has been on the Kansas side for a couple of reasons. First, Google Fiber was on the Kansas side nine months beforehand. Also, one thing that we've

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actually talked to Alan about and the Mayor is the Kansas Angel Tax Credits. It's a huge benefit to early stage companies. You may have heard that come up earlier in 2016 and they ended up extending it for five years. That's a huge benefit to early stage investors and a lot of reasons why, although the Village is bi-state, a number choose to be on the Kansas side because of that which puts them in KCK.



One of the interesting things that we, in unique perspective, were able to gain because we are Volunteering, giving all this time to really host all of these visitors. It gave us this really unique perspective on all of the stakeholders that it takes to really create an environment where entrepreneurs can thrive. We saw a need. We knew if Kansas City was going to capitalize on all of this excitement and momentum around Google Fiber and then CISCO Smart City and all this other stuff that was happening, that somebody needed to be there to support all these efforts that were happening like the Village.

Overtime, the Village had a lot of opportunities to really grow and do different things. As volunteers, it really wasn't in the position to do it. As a result of all that learning and realizing that education and government and investors in the business community all played very key roles in creating an environment in which entrepreneurs can thrive—we all can agree that we want entrepreneurs to thrive—some organization needed to exist to support all that and connect. That's when we decided to start the Kansas City Startup Foundation, which is also kind of now the caretaker of the Village.

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This is a formal 501(c)3. We got it now about a year and a half ago. As you can see, the foundation exists to strengthen and support an inclusive, collaborative and opportunistic startup and entrepreneur ecosystem. When we say ecosystem, we talk about kind of those five pieces we saw in the last slide in connecting the education, government, investment and business communities to support a vibrant entrepreneurial community.

Our mission is simple: unify and champion Kansas City's entrepreneur and startup community. That's why we're here today is to help inform and show you guys what's happening so you can have that knowledge as you progress. Our vision is ultimately to build Kansas City into the most entrepreneurial community in America.

This is kind of a moniker of that the Greater Kansas City Chamber kind of took up probably about five years ago now. We believe the Foundation is in a perfect position to help make that a reality.

Building momentum	
mid-2015	Forms 501(c)3
Apr 2016	Hires Matthew Marcus as full-time Executive Director
Fall 2016	Strengthens board of directors with leaders in every ecosystem
	segment (including Alan Howze)
Dec 2016	Reaches \$10,000 year-end fundraiser goal (\$12,880 raised)
	Secures \$20,000 grant from Enid & Crosby Kemper Foundation
early-2017	Discussing acquisition of several startup community assets

Specific to the foundation so you can kind of see and understand where we're at today. We got our 501(c)3 in mid-2015. At that point, it took everything just to figure out how to form a 501(c)3 so we did that. Spring of last year, Marcus became officially full-time Executive Director. We just got scrappy and pieced together a bunch of funding and supporters and made that happen. He really spent the rest of the year pulling together all the documentation and website and building a really strong Board. We now have a Board of 12 that has leaders in all of those different segments of the community that we talked about. We have educational leaders, government leaders and so on to really bring good representation. Alan has agreed to be a part of that. We knew that was really important with the Village being a key part of what the Foundation does, to have a good representative from KCK. Alan has accepted that role and is on the Board.

Just as a way to kind of kick off and start getting community buy-in, we did just a \$10,000 end-of-year fundraiser which went well. We ended up raising \$13,800. We had another \$1,000 that we miscounted. A good problem to have.

We also were able to secure a \$20,000 grant from the Enid & Crosby Kemper Foundation. We have a good relationship with Sandy Kemper, and he's a big supporter of all this. He chipped in and now has extended our runway for another year to really take it and continue to build to the next level. Nothing we can specifically talk about yet. Now that this exists, to kind of be this grassroots support organization—there's a number of people that have been doing good things in the community—that now we're talking about bringing that under our umbrella to really give it the support it deserves.

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A few things just to kind of give you an idea of some of the stuff happening in the Village in KCK that's really exciting for you to know.

Villagers making news ...

 CEED startup community builders	CEED launches in summer 2014, operates Village Square, MECA Challenge & Startland News
	Former American Beauty Salon reopens as Village Square Coworking Studio in 2015
	MECA Challenge reaches 16 events, 600+ students and 250+ teachers in 2016
	Startland secures the Kauffman Foundation as sponsor, partners with KC Star



The organization that I lead is called CEED. CEED launched in the summer of 2014. We now operate the following three programs, one of which is Village Square. If you remember, the American Beauty Salon that was on State Line right around 45th Street, we purchased that and it's now a co-working space for entrepreneurs. That's where we both office. I would absolutely extend the offer for any of you to come and potentially to even host a meeting there. We have event space that we'd be happy to open up for you all.

We also run, and where I was almost late, we're putting on a MECA Challenge which is a one-day innovation experience for students and teachers. It's what we presented last month or a couple of months ago. We did one with Raymore-Peculiar today that went really well.

We also run *Startland News*, which is the only online publication that solely covers innovation and entrepreneurship in Kansas City. We have two full-time reporters. This fall, we secured a sponsorship from the Kauffman Foundation that really helped solidify that and helped propelled that forward.

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Mr. Marcus said obviously, there's a means to an end for all the work that we do. There's a number of, I think, progressive results that come from a startup community: community itself, promoting community, but of course, entrepreneurs building successful businesses. Here are just a couple of notable stories to talk about. IDLESmart is a current startup in the Village. It's been in there for a couple of years now, I think. They recently just won \$125,000 pitch competition, a national pitch competition. It's a great way to represent our startup community and, of course, the City of Kansas City, Kansas. They're also raising a large investment round. I'm not really sure exactly the amount, but it will be good for them and progress their business.

LendingStandard was once known as FormsZapper. They were one of those first startups based in the Kansas City Startup Village. They helped kind of found the Village, as it were. They pivoted and changed and kind of dialed into a specific target market that they realized was a big gap. They took lead on it and they secured \$600,000 in investment and they've landed one of the biggest whales in the lending industry. The name escapes me right now, but it was a pretty big deal for them. They're definitely on the up and up.

SquareOffs is another early Kansas City Startup Village company that is actually based in Kansas City, Missouri, right now. They did win a LaunchKC grant this previous year. Part of that was to office in Kansas City, Missouri. They're doing really well. They've grown, created jobs, grown their company and they're getting ready to close on a seven plus figure investment round.

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This is arguably the most exciting bit of news from Kansas City Startup Ecosystem as of late. I verify one of the original Kansas City Startup Village companies. We remember them when they were a team of five having us come over and look into a camera and the phone and say look left, look right. It's scanning your eye. We were like, what's going on here. It was pretty neat to see their early iteration of their product. Fast forward a couple of years and now it becomes one of the most noticeable exits for our community where Alibaba, I'm sure you've all heard of them—it was the first US acquisition for Alibaba. There will certainly be more in the future, but to see the first one come from our city here, is really exciting, of course. A nine-figure payday doesn't hurt either.

Mr. Arredondo said in case you don't know, Alibaba, that's the Chinese version of Amazon. It's one of the largest internet companies in the world.

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Startup community impact

1. **Economic development:** Creating jobs in Kansas City
2. **Recruitment:** Attracting talent to Kansas City
3. **Publicity:** Casting a spotlight on Kansas City
4. **Gateway:** Introducing people in Kansas City
5. **Unifying:** Connecting participants in Kansas City



You can kind of see how it continued to grow. It is kind of this farming mentality as you kind of cultivate a bunch of seeds and see them grow. Ultimately, what is the impact? You are starting to see it. From the economic development side, all of those companies we just listed are hiring a bunch of people and they raise money to hire people. Eyeverify is already up to 40 and they plan to grow to over 100 in the next couple of years now with the support of Alibaba.

Recruitment is huge. These cool, early stage companies go a long way to changing the reputation of a city. We're seeing a lot of really talented, technical people moving here to be a part of these companies.

Publicity is big. I showed you that. We literally had Anderson Cooper's crew onsite in KCK doing a shooting of the Village. It's a really cool gateway for people to really change the perception of Kansas City that often is a cowtown, to fly over country, to really tell them now there's really innovative things happening here. We have the opportunity to tell a lot of those stories and tell a broader story of what's happening. As you see, it connects a lot of people and that's what we're really passionate about.

UG of WC and KCK Support

1. **Financial support:** Funding for KCSV / KCSF
2. **Innovation district:** Startup friendly zoning regulations
3. **Resolutions:** Grow and advance the ecosystem
4. **Participation:** Attend community events



Specifically, just to give you guys some ideas on some ways to start thinking on how to support. Obviously, there's always financial stuff. Beyond that, thinking creatively on how do we create zoning regulations that encourage that type of activity, resolutions that can kind of bring attention to it. I know back probably 2013/2014, I think there was a resolution about Kansas City Startup Village Day. That was cool and it got a little publicity, again, it showed how the UG was kind of engaged. Then the other thing is it's just fun. It's a really engaging community and I would encourage any of you to come down every second Friday. We have an event for the community to come to Village Square and get to know each other and talk and play games. It's a lot of fun and I would highly encourage you guys to come.

Get Informed  STARTLAND Kansas City's Home for Innovation News startlandnews.com	Get Involved KC fwdkc.co	Get Connected  Come for a tour and coffee!
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Again, specifically, *Startland News* is a great resource. I'd recommend following along there. It's free to subscribe to it if you wanted to. It's good to keep a pulse on what's going on. Forward KC, FWDKC, is a calendar of all the events happening. Again, a good way to just plug in. Finally, like I mentioned earlier, just come down. Happy to give you a tour, happy to host a meeting, anything you guys would like to just learn a little bit more and see it firsthand. Village Square in in Kansas City, Kansas. We're excited to play our part and to help be a resource for everyone.

Chairman Markley said I went on a tour, but it was so long ago. It sounds like things have changed pretty vastly since the time when I was there last. I think it was a little less organized maybe. I remember the Eyeverify discussion and meeting some of that team when I was there. It's very cool to see how you've grown and matured.

Commissioner Johnson said when you talked about startup friendly zoning regulations, are you finding any consistent challenges as it relates to zoning for the startups. **Mr. Arrendondo** said one of the challenges we had earlier on, we had gotten a few special use permits to allow entrepreneurs to live and work out of homes. One of the things you might remember, for those of you that have been around, was back in the day when it was happening really fast, we didn't realize the impact it was having on the neighborhood. They kind of had a little uproar and signed a petition and told us they wouldn't approve any more special use permits. We've come a long way since then and honestly we've kind of backed off that.

I think just for you all to know what we're doing and now that we have someone full-time focused on the Foundation and the Village as well, as I'm full-time there running CEED, we're a lot more attentive. We do host the neighborhood association meetings every month just a way to kind of show that we want to be good neighbors. That was something early on that we just didn't even think about until they were upset. Things like that. There are other stuff out there just in terms of encouraging that type of activity.

A lot of times those types of things reside more in downtowns, but the opportunity to kind of create a little district—even something we talked about that never got wings but is have a little sign or banner that says welcome to the Startup Village or something like that. Super easy, but that never really had too many legs in the past either. We even took down—that logo we

have just as flags, we had pushed back from the neighborhood originally. We even took down flags because it was sensitive and we didn't want to deal with it. Even just little things just to show that the neighborhood is proud, the city is proud.

Commissioner Philbrook said thank you for being aware of all that. I was around when that hit the fan. It was quite interesting. What people don't understand they fear and they didn't understand what was going on. I think after they got to know you, to understand what you're about, that made such a big difference. **Mr. Arrendondo** said it really did. **Commissioner Philbrook** said we really appreciate you guys settling back down and taking a look at that because I know it made the big difference. All of that's not my district. It got a lot quieter about that. Thank you, for doing that.

Commissioner Philbrook said now this is just my comment. It has nothing to do with anybody else. It would really be kind of fun if we saw a Startup Village here closer to City Hall. Hint, hint. **Mr. Arrendondo** said we've had a number of those talks specifically. We'd love to see that. We had a couple of startups that were actually a couple of the graduates that were outgrowing the Village and we had some conversations with the EDC. At the time, the EDC was trying to use traditional corporate incentives to get these little startups to come and it just didn't work. I think with Allen now more focused, he's going to have a front row seat to all of this now being on the Board. I think opportunities like that will not slip through the cracks as much. Our hope is to be a pipeline for downtown.

Commissioner Philbrook said as you mentioned, you have brought a lot of people to Kansas City, Kansas. We don't mind spreading you around. We'll use you; it's not a problem. **Mr. Arrendondo** said we're happy being used as long as it's mutual. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I understand; boy don't we. I appreciate all your work and thank you for being so determined to make it work. **Mr. Arrendondo** said thanks for recognizing the progress. It has been a lot of work. I think we're now in a position where it will be easier for us to collaborate because we have put the structure in place. **Commissioner Philbrook** said it's very exciting. I'll be calling you. I have a couple of ideas.

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Chairman Markley said that is really good feedback on the economic development front that I hope staff all wrote a note down on. Over the years, we've talked many, many times about how can we incentivize small business the same way that we've incentivized large businesses to come to Wyandotte County. It's just a continuation of that same line of discussion that we have been very successful with large businesses in Wyandotte County. We've had a harder time figuring out how to support our small businesses. I appreciate your feedback that you had the same experience with your startups. **Mr. Arrendondo** said one thing I'll add to that is, a lot of times it's easier to see the short-term, big win on a corporation. You give them some incentives and they bring 200 jobs, something like that. What you're seeing here, and what's been hard, is now we have a track record they can see although when you plant those seeds, it's hard to know which one will be the amazing one. The whole point is you plant enough seeds and create an environment where they thrive and this is what's happened.

One that I forgot to put on there was RFP365, which is digitizing the RFP process which actually KCMO is running a pilot with and they raised a million dollars and now have a 15 person team. That's yet another one that is doing really amazing things. Again, in the moment you look and there are two founders that are looking really scrappy and you're like why would we support that. **Chairman Markley** said sleeping on a bean bag. I think when I toured, there was some guy that was, his bed was a bean bag chair. **Mr. Arrendondo** said yes. To see that grow up and what that becomes hopefully, now we can kind of tell that story and help you guys see where it leads to. Even if it's just in small ways now, a little bit goes a long way in that community.

The last thing kind of on that note, up until this past year, all of that was volunteer work, every single bit of it up until 2016. We started in 2012. To see that result on the backs of volunteers, imagine if we sunk some resources in it the right way what we could do.

Commissioner Philbrook said I remember meeting you down on Central Avenue when we first talked, when you were first working on this. This is so very exciting to me. **Mr. Arrendondo** said we also know a little bit more of how to talk about it.

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Chairman Markley said I will say if one of the three of you or all of you are willing to stay until I finish these last two items, I have a fundraising idea for you. I don't necessarily want to say on the microphone. Hang around and I will share it.

Mr. Marcus said I'll just summarize real quick. I think we all know Silicon Valley. Right? It's the premier startup city. What we're putting together and what we're all working on together is something that won't ever be a Silicon Valley because I don't think there ever will be one like that, but it's certainly a fast-growing and opportune time to have a startup community in Kansas City. I think if we all do find best ways to work together, there are literally startups that are trying to get out of Silicon Valley because of rising costs and they can't live there. They're looking for other places to go. We could attract a gem or two that could be game changing for Kansas City. I'm excited for that.

Action: For information only.

Item No. 4 – 17005... GRANT PROCESS: UG-HOLLYWOOD CASINO/SVV

Synopsis: Review and approval of the 2017 UG-Hollywood Casino/SVV grant process, submitted by Joe Connor, Assistant County Administrator.

Joe Connor, Assistant County Administrator, said with me is Emerick Cross, your Commission Liaison. As Commissioner Markley stated, this is the time of year where we plan for the 2017, the next year's round of the grant money. Just as a reminder, the name has kind of changed. We get money from Hollywood Casino and also from Schlitterbahn Vacation Village. Although this year's mass isn't going to be anything like last years, if you remember, there is still extra. It is more than from a couple of years ago.

What I presented to you is just last year's guidelines with a few changes. The dollar amount that's available this year is \$577,500 on the first page. On the second page, that breaks down each share for each Commissioner and the Mayor is \$52,500 for the year. That's the dollar amount that will be allocated by each of you. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked the magic number for all of us. **Mr. Connor** said right.

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We haven't really changed anything else except for the timetable on the second page. We laid out what we think could be a timetable to administer the grant for this year. No real different activities. We're trying to work this around your schedules. If you'll look at kind of the middle of the timetable, the Commissioner/Mayor review, that's mid-May. We want to try to get that done before the May holiday. We have time to put it together for the June Commission meetings and then hopefully, by the end of June, we will distribute the funds. That's pretty similar to last year from beginning to end.

The other thing that I submitted, this request from you guys from our strategic planning session. There was a new vision statement that was created. We are planning on bringing back kind of a full plan from the strategic planning day later this month. Sheila Shockey and I have been working on kind of a finished product for you. It's just not ready for distribution yet. We wanted to at least provide this vision statement which you all agreed to on that Saturday when you were there.

Just an update on the current grant awardees who have turned in there six-month reports and who haven't. There are 16 organizations listed here that by December 16 did not submit their report. The Community Foundation has been in contact with all of them and they feel pretty confident that most, if not all, will have them in within short order. We can certainly provide an update on that later. That was a question that was asked for this meeting. I just feel, based on the communications that the Community Foundation is getting, I feel pretty good about getting those reports in.

I think what we're looking for today is taking a look at the guidelines, especially the funding priorities and determining how do we want to move forward.

Chairman Markley said I just have one question. Doesn't really matter to me one way or another, but I thought last year, in addition to 501(c)3s, we said it was okay to give to school districts and district-related organizations. Like I said, it doesn't really matter to me one way or the other, but I thought that was something we had changed. **Mr. Connor** said we didn't award any funds to school districts last year. Everything maybe was a foundation tied to the school district or it was a straight 501(c)3. **Chairman Markley** said like I said, I'm good with that. I just thought I remembered some discussion about that last year. **Commissioner Philbrook** said they can work in collaboration. **Mr. Connor** said most of them have a foundation that goes to it.

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Chairman Markley asked related back to it. **Mr. Connor** said right. **Commissioner Bynum** said I would hope that we keep one of the requirements that there would be 501(c)3 organizations. I would just ask that we continue that.

Commissioner Bynum said I was curious, two quick questions. Sixteen reports due, but some of those are probably in by now. Out of how many, Joe? I can't remember. **Mr. Connor** said yes, there were 55. **Commissioner Bynum** said 16 out of 55. **Mr. Connor** said right, so percentage wise it's probably pretty similar. The first few years you gave between 30 and 40 grants. With the extra money last year, that number jumped up to 55. Again, it doesn't cause me any heartburn to have this many late because I think they'll come in. **Commissioner Bynum** said I agree.

I was telling Commissioner Markley before the meeting that last year with the grants that got supported with dollars that I allocated, not only did they get the check with the cover letter, but they also got a personal communication from me reminding them here are your deadlines, please be mindful of these deadlines. Still, three of the groups on the list are groups that I allocated at least some of their money.

I don't know, Commissioner Markley's point is well taken. In our conversation, she was saying some of the groups are smaller, some are larger, and some are not as familiar with managing grant dollars. **Chairman Markley** said grants dollars, yes. **Commissioner Bynum** said especially maybe grant dollars at this level. I'm not sure what more we can do to say to the groups we are so happy to support you, please do your reporting on time. The only thing I can think of so far is the grant check did have a cover letter and contained within it were the dates. Maybe that's a cover half sheet on top of the cover letter. Maybe it's some other way that the Community Foundation sees fit to be big and bold about reporting deadlines. I might be the only one who cares.

Chairman Markley said I was just going to say, Melissa and I were just saying to each other, we obviously don't know the details of why the reports didn't come in and to what extent communications happened. It may be that especially to these smaller organizations, we need to stress if you can't fill out the full report because whatever program it is isn't going to be done until five days after the due date or whatever the case may be, you still need to provide some

communication by the deadline. We could at least put on this list a partial report or whatever the case may be. I think sometimes with smaller organizations, they think I don't have the report so I'll just do nothing. I'll just hide in here. I'll do nothing. We may need to communicate that we expect something by this deadline. If it's a letter saying I can't meet this deadline, that's better than just ignoring the deadline.

Mr. Connor said I think once the Community Foundation gets as far as they can get, they'll contact us again and say okay this is where we're at. We've got two stragglers. They're also going to review the six-month reports to make sure we're on target. If there are any issues like they haven't spent any of their money or it's a year-long program and they spent all their money already. We want to get that information so we can give that to you so when you consider this next round of funding, you can kind of look at a performance measure for those groups.

We will be working with the Community Foundation. It's a little early to do that because they are still going through and contacting them by telephone calls, emails, whatever, trying to get us a better report.

Chairman Markley said I'll just say for me personally, it's completely my personal opinion, I thought it went well last year. I liked the level of service that we kind of chose from our menu of options from the Community Foundation. I liked the number of organizations that were able to get support from the Commission. We kind of change this every year, so for me personally, I'd like to do it at least as close to similar as we can to last year to kind of get a basis of what we should or shouldn't expect before we make changes again. I feel like we've just been constantly churning trying to find the right fit for us so much so that I'm not sure we've given ourselves a chance to say this little piece of it is really working and this little piece isn't really working because we change so much every time. We're not sure which of the various things we're dealing with, moving parts, is actually good or bad.

Mr. Connor said I should mention too that their fee for this grant will be the same as last year. They're willing to perform that same level of service for the same funding. **Commissioner Bynum** said percentage wise, that's going too high. **Commissioner Philbrook** said more.

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Commissioner Bynum said it's more of our bucket this time. **Mr. Connor** said right. **Chairman Markley** said bigger bucket, bigger chunk of the bucket. **Commissioner Philbrook** said bigger bucket. I go along with you. I really don't want to see any major changes. We need some continuity so we can do some comparisons. It's hard to compare things if you have apples one year and oranges the next. **Chairman Markley** said kiwi. **Commissioner Philbrook** said they may all be fruit, but exactly. You don't use any of those the same way. I'm all for keeping it.

Mr. Connor said I'm hearing consensus here. I'd like to have a vote and we'll send it to the full Commission. **Commissioner Bynum** said as far as process. **Mr. Connor** said as is and we'll start the process in February.

Action: **Commissioner Kane made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Item No. 6 – 17938... RESOLUTION: SUPPORT EFFORTS TO END HOMELESSNESS

Synopsis: A resolution supporting the efforts of the Greater Kansas City Coalition to end homelessness, submitted by Lindsay Behgam, Executive Coordinator to the Mayor.

Lindsay Behgam, Executive Coordinator to the Mayor, said I serve as the Mayor's office representative on formerly the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition, which merged in September or October with the Greater Kansas City Homeless Services Coalition. As you may recall, that all happened while I was on maternity leave so I'm a little bit behind. I brought Matt Watkins with me, who is the Treasurer of the newly formed organization, to help answer questions about this if you have them.

The process moved a little faster at the state and federal levels than we were all expecting which is good news for all of us involved. They need a resolution from our Commission moving the money that we had dedicated to the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition out of our CDBG funds over to the newly formed entity. **Commissioner Bynum** said so that's what we're

doing. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I am on that Board. Right now, we can't do anything with those funds until we have officially moved them into the greater coalition.

Action: **Commissioner Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Adjourn

Chairman Markley adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

mbb