

From: Gary Kallas [mailto:garyk@wil-mar.org]
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2009 5:12 PM
To: Noel, Laura
Subject: Re: in the event . . .

Hi Laura,

In the event that other obligations prevents me from attending the next Commission meeting, just wanted to reiterate a few matters.

1) Kudos and applause to the City Council for recognizing in a tough, tough budget year the financial stress heaped on not-for-profits in their service to our community's most needy and vulnerable populations.

The applause is for approving an increase of \$100,000 to the funding pool. Indeed, more would certainly have been welcomed, yet the gesture of adding during these tough times is a warm testament in upholding our value that we as a whole community care for our needy and vulnerable.

Kudos goes out to the Council for empowering the Commission to decide how these funds would be allocated.

I offer, as mentioned in our phone chat, the notion that the Commission might want to consider allocating all or some of the funds to making \$2,000 equipment grants to the agencies it funds.

There is precedent for the Commission taking this route as I noted in 2002, 2003 and 2005.

Also, given that the \$100,000 is a one-time allotment and will not count as part of a 2011 funding baseline, it will not create any confusion when the Commission decides on 2011 funding recommendations.

And finally, while it may not need any emphasis, I suspect most agencies have on-going equipment needs and a shot of \$2,000 would be most welcomed.

Just a consideration.

Gary Kallas