



Mental Health Commission

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CONSENT CALENDAR
May 25, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Mental Health Commission
Submitted by: Margaret Fine, Chairperson, Mental Health Commission
Subject: Appointment of Monica Renee Jones to Mental Health Commission

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution appointing: Monica Renee Jones as a representative of the General Public Interest Category, to complete her first 3-year term beginning May 26, 2021 and ending May 25, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Mental Health Commission is authorized to be composed of thirteen members. There are presently six vacancies on the Commission. These vacancies impair the Commission's ability to adequately review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, resources, and programs. Approval of the recommended action will fill a vacant position and move the Commission closer to having a full and diverse complement of commissioners

BACKGROUND

California State law requires that appointments to the Mental Health Commission meet specific categories, who may serve up to nine years consecutively. The general public interest category may include anyone who has an interest in and some knowledge of mental health services. The special public interest category includes direct consumers of public mental health services and family members of consumers, which together must constitute at least fifty percent or nine of the commission seats. Direct consumers and family members shall each constitute at least 20% of the commission membership.

Monica Renee Jones is a resident of Berkeley and has a past experience in Corrections for 25 year. She has the compassion to help others and a passion to serve the mental health community. She would like to join the Mental Health Commission to be part of the solution and address issues around housing and medication evaluations for mental health consumers. This would be her first term participating on the Mental Health Commission.

The Mental Health Commission passed the following motions at the March 25, 2021 meeting:

Interview and vote on the nomination of Monica Jones on the Mental Health Commission.

M/S/C (cheema, Fine) Motion to move that we forward the application for Monica Renee Jones to the city council

PASSED

Ayes: Blanton, cheema, Fine, Opton, Prichett Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent: Moore, Taplin

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the recommended action will allow the Mental Health Commission to move closer to having a full and diverse complement of commissioners to review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, resources, and programs.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position.

CONTACT PERSON

Jamie Works-Wright, Commission Secretary, HHCS, 510-981-7721

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

APPOINTMENT OF MONICA RENEE JONES TO THE MENTAL HEALTH
COMMISSION

WHEREAS, membership of the Mental Health Commission is composed of thirteen appointments by the City Council as a whole, including one appointment by the Mayor (*or designee*), six special public interest appointments, and four general public interest appointments; and

WHEREAS, with the ongoing implementation of the Mental Health Services Act, the City of Berkeley will need to have a full complement of diverse appointees to the Commission to review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, resources, and programs and to fulfill its mandate; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jones has an investment in the community, trained in post trauma and conflict management and is prepared to contribute to helping others.

WHEREAS, the Mental Health Commission at its March 25, 2021 meeting recommends appointment of Monica Renee Jones.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council appoints Monica Renee Jones as a representative of the General Public Interest category, to complete her first-term ending May 25, 2024.

