



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 17, 2021
6:30 PM

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, this meeting of the Housing Advisory Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, there will not be a physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely using the internet: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Use URL –<https://zoom.us/j/4863098496>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon on the screen.

To join by phone: Dial 1-669-900-6833 and Enter Meeting ID: 486 309 8496. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call

Present: Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Sim, Yun, Hill, Bookstein, Pelley (6:42PM)

Absent: Romo

Quorum: 7 (Attended: 10)

Staff Present: Rhianna Babka, Mary-Claire Katz

Public Present: Chimey Lee, Sarah Scruggs

2. Agenda Approval

Action: M/S/C (Yun/Dunner) to reorder agenda section "Other Discussion Items" and discuss as follows: #4, #9, #11, #24, and then the remaining agenda items as ordered.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Sim, Yun, Hill, Pelley; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo.

3. Public Comment

- a. Chimey Lee comments regarding TOPA.

Update/Action Items

The Commission may take action related to any subject listed on the agenda, except where noted.

Berkeley Community Action Agency Board Business

4. Approve minutes from the 2/24/2021 Special Meeting (Attachment A)

Action: M/S/C (Bookstein/Kohn) to approve the minutes from the 2/24/20 special meeting.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Sim, Yun, Hill, Pelley; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo.

5. Discuss CSBG Berkeley Community Action Agency Community Action Plan, 2022-23 – (Attachment B)
Staff provides draft CSBG 2022-23 Community Action Plan to commissioners and responds to questions regarding the upcoming public hearing on 4/21/21.
6. Discuss low-income commissioner stipend – Staff
Staff provides explanation of low-income commissioner stipend and notification of potential upcoming commissioner stipend changes.
7. Review City of Berkeley funded agency Program and Financial reports — Staff (Attachment C)
 - a. LifeLong Medical Care - Access to Primary Care/Acupuncture for the Low-Income/Uninsured
Commissioners review the LifeLong reports.

Other Discussion Items

8. Review and discuss City of Berkeley Commission minutes – All
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
9. Presentation on Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act – Sarah Scruggs, Northern California Land Trust
Sarah Scruggs presents on the topic of the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act.
10. Discuss Budget Review Subcommittee recommendation regarding cannabis tax revenue – Commissioners Sood and Romo
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
11. Update on Accessibility at the STAIR Center – Behm-Steinberg (Attachments D and E)
Commissioner Behm-Steinberg discusses concerns regarding the accessibility of the STAIR Center. Commissioner Behm-Steinberg also discusses submitting a public information request to the City on this topic.
12. Discuss report regarding homeless encampment in South Berkeley near Here/There sign – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
13. Discuss Citywide Restroom Assessment - All
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
14. Discuss encampments proposal – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
15. Discuss rent control recommendation – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg and Omodele
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.

16. Discuss report on the South Adeline Corridor Plan – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
17. Discuss disabled accessibility in high-density corridors – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
18. Discuss lack of phone booths and charging stations in Berkeley – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
19. Discuss housing issues that impact the poor – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
20. Discuss possible improvements to the HWCAC request for proposal review process – Commissioner Kohn
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
21. Discuss consequences of failed elevators in buildings – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
22. Discuss City grant writer procurement – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
23. Update on the closure of Alta Bates Hospital – Commissioner Omodele
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
24. Update on HWCAC recommendation to Council regarding Assessment of Vacant Properties – Commissioner Sood
Action: M/S/C (Hill/Bookstein) for Commissioner Sood to draft and send a communication to Council to make a recommendation to refer the assessment of vacant properties to the City Manager's office to request an update on the assessment.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Behm-Steinberg, Romo, Sim, Yun, Hill; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo, Omodele.

Action: M/S/C (Kohn/Sim) to extend the meeting for seven minutes.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Behm-Steinberg, Romo, Sim, Yun, Hill; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo, Omodele.
25. Discuss potential questionnaire to City Council regarding HWCAC priorities – Commissioner Bookstein
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
26. Discuss current state of homelessness in Berkeley – Commissioner Omodele
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.
27. Review latest City Council meeting agenda
Continued to 4/21/2021 meeting.

28. Announcements

None.

29. Future Agenda Items

Letter regarding STAIR center from Commissioner Behm-aSteinberg.

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Sim/Yun) to adjourn at 8:40PM.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Behm-Steinberg, Romo, Sim, Yun, Hill, Pelley; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent –Romo, Omodele.

Attachments

- A. Draft Minutes of the 2/24/2021 Meeting
- B. Community Action Plan Template, 2022-23
- C. Program and financial reports from LifeLong Medical Care
- D. STAIR email to Disability Commission secretary
- E. Local Adoption of Emergency Amendments to the 2016 California Building Code Governing Emergency Housing
https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2018/06_June/Documents/2018-06-12_Item_42_Local_Adoption_of_Emergency_Amendments.aspx

Review City Council Meeting Agenda at City Clerk Dept. or
<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/citycouncil>

Communications

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. **Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Housing and Community Services Department located at 2180 Milvia Street, 2nd Floor.

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. **Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.**

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