



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

7:00 PM

South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St.

Berkeley, CA 94703

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call
Present: Dunner, Smith, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Bookstein, Deyhim (7:15PM arrival), Romo, Sim (7:20PM arrival)
Absent: None
Quorum: 6 (Attended: 10)
Staff Present: Rhianna Babka, Kristen Lee
Public Present: Chasetta Miller
2. Public Comment
None

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

1. Approve minutes from the 11/20/2019 Regular Meeting (Attachment A)
Action: M/S/C (Sood/Dunner) to approve the 11/20/2019 meeting minutes with edits.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Smith, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – None.
2. Update and possible action on the use of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) discretionary funding – Kristen Lee
Action: M/S/C (Bookstein/Dunner) to approve the use of 2019 CSBG discretionary funding for Dignity on Wheels.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Smith, Kohn, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes - None; Abstain – Sood, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg; Absent – None.
3. By-Laws update – Staff
Staff provides an update on the status of the HWCAC By-Laws review.
4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair reminder – Staff
Staff announces the election for the Chair and Vice Chair will occur at the February 19 meeting.
5. Review City of Berkeley funded agency Program and Financial reports — Staff (Attachment B)
 - a. Multicultural Institute – Lifeskills Program
Commissioners reviewed and discussed the program and financial reports for Multicultural Institute's Lifeskills program.

Other Discussion Items

6. Discuss housing issues that impact the poor – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
7. Discuss gentrification presentation by guest speaker Willie Phillips – Commissioner Smith
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
8. Discuss Budget Review Subcommittee – Commissioners Sood and Romo
The Budget Review subcommittee will provide an update at the February 19 meeting.
9. Review and discuss City of Berkeley Commission minutes – All
Commissioners discuss the minutes of the Disability Commission.
10. Discuss possible improvements to the HWCAC request for proposal review process – Commissioner Kohn
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
11. Discuss disabled accessibility in high-density corridors – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
12. Discuss tax bill transparency – Commissioner Sood (Attachment C)
Action: M/S/C (Romo/Sim) to send Commissioner Sood’s tax bill transparency item to City Council.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Smith, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – None.
13. Discuss lack of phone booths and charging stations in Berkeley – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
14. Discuss encampments proposal (Attachment D) – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Commissioners discuss the encampment proposal as described by Commissioner Behm-Steinberg. The proposal will be an agenda item with attachment at the February 19 meeting.
15. Discuss rent control recommendation – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg and Omodele
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.
16. Presentation on the subject of making Berkeley a sanctuary city for Black people – Commissioner Smith (Attachment E)
Commissioner Smith presents on the subject of making Berkeley a sanctuary city for Black people.

Action: M/S/C (Sood/Behm-Steinberg) to extend the meeting to 9:10PM.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Smith, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – None.
17. Discuss report regarding homeless encampment in South Berkeley near Here/There sign – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.

18. Discuss report on the South Adeline Corridor Plan – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.

19. Update on West Berkeley air quality – Commissioner Bookstein
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.

20. Update on the closure of Alta Bates Hospital – Commissioner Omodele
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.

21. Review latest City Council meeting agenda
Continued to 2/19/2020 meeting.

22. Announcements
None.

23. Future Agenda Items
Making Berkeley a sanctuary city for Black people; agenda approval prior to meeting start; census presentation; consequences of failed elevators in buildings; City grant writer procurement.

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Kohn/Behm-Steinberg) to adjourn the meeting at 9:15PM.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Smith, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – None.

Attachments

- A. Draft Minutes of the 11/20/2019 Meeting
- B. Multicultural Institute Lifeskills Program Statement of Expense and Program Report
- C. Property Tax Transparency Council Item Draft
- D. Family Homelessness in Berkeley
- E. Berkeley: A Sanctuary City For Black People

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

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Secretary:

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