



Berkeley Homeless
Services Panel of Experts

MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2023

1. **Roll Call:** 7:00 PM
Present: Feller, Hynes, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Jones (7:10), Wachspres (7:10-7:15), and Bookstein.
Absent: Meany.
Staff: Jacobs, McCormick.
Council: None.
Public: 7.
2. Comments from the Public: 5.

Update/Action Items

3. Approval of Minutes from March 8 and April 18, 2023.

Action: M/S/C Feller/Kealoha-Blake move to approve the March 8 minutes as written.

Vote: *Ayes:* Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic and Bookstein.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* Hynes. *Absent:* Jones, Wachspres.

Motion failed.

Action: M/S/C Bookstein/Feller/Kealoha-Blake move to approve the March 8 minutes as written.

Vote: *Ayes:* Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Hynes, and Bookstein.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Jones, Wachspres.

4. Agenda Approval.

Action: M/S/C Jones/Bookstein move to approve the minutes as written.

Vote: *Ayes:* Bookstein, Feller, Hynes, Jones, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, and Wachspres.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Meany.

5. Land acknowledgement.

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

Discussion; no action taken.

6. Acting chair report. Discussion.

Discussion; no action taken.

7. Reconsideration of vote to allocate monies to Russell House as to the amount needed for acquisition and renovation. Discussion and possible action.

Action: M/S/C Bookstein/Feller move to open the discussion about Russell House to ensure HSPE has adequate information and to consider the motion in light of the memo provided by the Berkeley Food and Housing Project.

Vote: Ayes: Marasovic, Hynes, Jones, Bookstein, Feller, Kealoha-Blake.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Meany, Wachspres.

Action: M/S/C Marasovic/Hynes recommend to City Council to allocate \$4.5 million or an amount of monies necessary based on an appraisal of the property, in Measure P monies to Berkeley Food and Housing project for the acquisition of Russell Street Residence and that city staff otherwise coordinate with BFHP to leverage other sources of funding, including monies external to the city and city monies, for necessary renovations in the amount of \$4.3 million.

HSPE supports this acquisition of Russell house to preserve the board and care as an essential service to the community; that the purchase price be based on an appraisal commissioned by the city staff.

Vote: Ayes: Marasovic, Hynes, Jones, Bookstein, Feller, Kealoha-Blake.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Meany, Wachspres.

8. Review programs, current and proposed, funded under Measure P and establish priorities for funding. Discussion and possible action.

Action: M/S/C Marasovic/Feller recommend to City Council to allocate \$2 million for the COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance – Housing Retention Program (EDC).

Vote: Ayes: Marasovic, Hynes, Jones, Bookstein, Feller, Kealoha-Blake.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Meany, Wachspres.

Action: M/S/C Marasovic/Hynes recommend to City Council to allocate \$900 thousand for Anti-Displacement Programs.

Vote: Ayes: Marasovic, Hynes, Jones, Bookstein, Feller, Kealoha-Blake.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Meany, Wachspres.

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9. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Minutes Approved on: May 3, 2023

Josh Jacobs, Commission Secretary: 