



Mental Health Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 18, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Mental Health Commission
 Submitted by: Paul Kealoha-Blake, Chairperson, Mental Health Commission
 Subject: Leave of Absence Request for Cameron Silverberg

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a leave of absence for Cameron Silverberg from the Mental Health Commission for the period January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In accordance with Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.02.030, Mental Health Commission members may be granted a leave of absence anywhere from one meeting up to a period not to exceed three months by the appointing Councilmember. In the case of commissioners who are appointed by the Council as a whole, a leave of absence not to exceed three months may be granted by the Council; the Commission Secretary shall submit a consent item to the agenda process for Council approval prior to the actual absence.

Members of the Mental Health Commission are appointed by the Council as a whole to meet specific categories determined by State law. As a result, Council as a whole must grant a leave of absence for any member of the Mental Health Commission. During the commission member's authorized leave of absence, the commission treats the absence as a vacancy; the number required for a quorum drops accordingly. The appointing Councilmember or the Council may fill such vacancy by a temporary appointment for a period not to exceed the period of the temporary vacancy.

BACKGROUND

Commissioner Silverberg is a student at the University of California and will be unable to attend the January, February and March 2015 Mental Health Commission meetings because during that time he will be studying abroad at Hong Kong University. He intends to continue his Commission work when he returns from Hong Kong.

The combination of Commissioner Silverberg's expected absences and his inclusion in the quorum would make it difficult for the Commission to reach quorum and take effective action. Therefore, a leave of absence for the period January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015 is being requested for Commissioner Silverberg. At its September 18, 2014 regular meeting, the Mental Health Commission took the following action:

M/S/C (Davis, Dixon) The Mental Health Commission recommends Cameron Silverberg be granted a Leave of Absence January 2015 through March 2015.

Ayes: Davis, Dixon, Fazio, Heda, Kealoha-Blake, Michel, Posey, Silverberg; Noes: None; Abstentions: Marasovic (is concerned about continuity and participation and thinks it might be more appropriate for Commissioner Silverberg to reapply when he can give a more focused, continuous effort); Absent: Arreguin, Grossman.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This course of action will support the Mental Health Commission in reaching quorum and being most effective during this time period.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.

CONTACT PERSON

Carol Patterson, Commission Secretary, HH&CS, (510) 981-7721