



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 16, 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 (6:40PM arrival), Hill, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Sim, Yun, Bookstein
Absent: Romo, Sood, Pelley, Kohn (7:34PM departure)
Quorum: 7 (Attended: 7)
Staff Present: Mary-Claire Katz, Rhianna Babka
Public Present: Cheryl Davila, Carole Marasovic, Michai, Linda Olivenbaum, unknown participant, George Lippman
2. Agenda Approval
Action: M/S/C (Kohn/Hill) to reorder agenda to discuss agenda item 8 after agenda items 5a and 5b, and then to discuss agenda item 18 after agenda item 8.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Hill, Sim, Yun, Bookstein; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo, Sood, Pelley.
3. 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

4. Approve minutes from the 5/19/2021 Regular Meeting (Attachment A) – All
Action: M/S/C (Kohn/Omodele) to approve minutes with edits.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Hill, Sim, Yun, Bookstein; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo, Sood, Pelley.
5. Chair election announcement – Chair and Staff (Item 5a)
Commissioner Yun announces her resignation as chair. An election for the new chair will occur at the next regular commission meeting.
6. Review City of Berkeley funded agency Program and Financial reports (Attachment B) — Staff (Item 5b)
 - a. J-Sei – Senior Services
Commissioners review the J-Sei reports.

Other Discussion Items

7. Review and discuss City of Berkeley Commission minutes – All
Commissioner Behm-Steinberg discusses the announcement of commission mergers.
8. Discussion and possible action on draft public comment regarding Alta Bates Hospital (Attachment C) – Commissioner Omodele
Commissioner Omodele discusses draft public comment regarding Alta Bates. No action taken as the meeting lost its quorum.
Public Comment: California Nurses Association does not want Alta Bates to shut down. Keep Alta Bates open to save lives because people who go there don't go to Kaiser. Suggestion to have the Commission on Disability and the HWCAC communicate to Council jointly on this topic.

Action: M/S/C (Yun/Omodele) to extend the meeting to 8:40PM.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Hill, Sim, Yun, Bookstein; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent – Romo, Sood, Pelley, Kohn.
9. Subcommittee on accessibility issues at Pathways update – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg and Omodele
No subcommittee was formed. Commissioner Behm-Steinberg announces that she discussed this topic with an individual at Pathways and they will work to address the issues that she identified. Commissioner Behm-Steinberg will visit the site to see changes.
10. Discussion and possible action on letter to Council regarding rent control and TOPA – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.

11. Discuss report regarding homeless encampment in South Berkeley near Here/There sign – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
12. Discuss report on the South Adeline Corridor Plan – Commissioner Romo
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
13. Discuss citywide public restrooms report – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
14. Discuss disabled accessibility in high-density corridors – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
15. Discuss possible improvements to the HWCAC request for proposal review process – Commissioner Kohn
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
16. Discuss City grant writer procurement – Commissioner Behm-Steinberg
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
17. Discuss potential questionnaire to City Council regarding HWCAC priorities – Commissioner Bookstein
Continued to 7/21/21 meeting.
18. Discuss current state of homelessness in Berkeley – Commissioner Omodele
Remove this item from the following meeting agenda.
19. Discussion and possible action on letter to Council regarding commission mergers (Attachment D) – Commissioners Bookstein Omodele
Action: M/S/C (Bookstein/Behm-Steinberg) to send the letter to Council with edits.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg, Hill, Bookstein; Noes - None; Abstain – Yun, Sim. None; Absent – Romo, Sood, Pelley.
20. Review latest City Council meeting agenda
21. Announcements
Commissioner Bookstein requests agenda item for following meeting regarding Grayson.
22. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Easy Does It funding
 - b. Discussion and possible action on accessibility issues, including Pathways and new facility at Grayson St. Staff v. Consultants; Ombudsman; and new liability concerns over Justice Department ruling on Mental Health.

c. Homeless shelter on Grayson.

Adjournment

Meeting ends due to loss of quorum at 8:45PM.

Minutes approved on: 7/21/21

Commission Secretary: Mary-Claire Katz