



Berkeley Homeless
Commission

MEETING MINUTES

March 8th, 2017

1. Roll Call: 7:00PM

Present: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Lee, Marasovic, Orgain, Radu.

Absent: None.

Staff: Vasquez, Wicker

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2. Comments from the Public: None.

3. Approval of Minutes for meeting of March 1st, 2017.

Action: M/S/C Feller/Cohen to approve the minutes of 3/1/17 as written.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Radu.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** Lee, Orgain. **Absent:** None.

Update/Action Items

4. Agenda Approval

Action: M/S/C Lee/Cohen to reorder the agenda and discuss items 5 and 6 (City Council updates and Commission calendar) to the beginning of the agenda.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Lee, Marasovic, Orgain, Radu.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** None.

5. City Council Updates:

Reserving Low-Income In Lieu Units for Households with a Section 8 Voucher or Shelter Plus Care Certificate.

Discussion, no action taken.

Referral to the Homeless Commission from Councilmember Bartlett to research grants and other sources of funding for homeless services.

Action: M/S/C Cohen/Radu to authorize a subcommittee to develop a research funding opportunities and report back to the Commission by the July meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Lee, Marasovic, Orgain, Radu.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** None.

6. Add Additional Homeless Commission meetings to the calendar.

Action: M/S/C Lee/Feller to request authorization from City Council to meet 12 times during 2017 to make up for the additional meetings needed for the review of agency applications for funding.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Lee, Marasovic, Orgain, Radu.

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Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

7. Finalize the Homeless Commission's recommendations to City Council for community agency applications for funding for FY18-FY19.

[Commissioner Orgain declared a conflict of interest and recused herself from the remainder of the meeting.]

Action: M/S/C Lee/Cohen to recommend \$50,000 for YSA's Vocational Arts Training Program for transition aged youth, with the condition that the agency be discouraged from applying for future City funding if City funds make up more than 15% of the agency's overall budget.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Lee, Marasovic.
Noes: Kealoha-Blake, Radu. Abstain: None. Absent: Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Cohen/Kealoha-Blake to recommend \$50,000 for Covenant House/YEAH's daytime drop-in services for transition aged youth.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic.
Noes: Lee, Radu. Abstain: None. Absent: Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Lee/Kealoha-Blake to reduce funding for the Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BFHP) application for Centralized Entry System ("the Hub") by \$600,000.

Vote: Ayes: Lee, Kealoha-Blake.
Noes: Cohen, Feller, Marasovic, Radu. Abstain: None. Absent: Orgain (recused).

Motion failed.

Action: M/S/C Cohen/Feller to reduce funding for the BFHP application for Centralized Entry System ("the Hub") by \$60,000 in order to increase funding for daytime services for transition aged youth.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic.
Noes: Radu. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee, Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Feller/Radu to recommend not funding the New Bridge Foundation's Residential Treatment Program due to the low utilization rate, and allocate the \$50,000 for transitional housing beds provided by Options Recovery Services.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Radu.
Noes: Marasovic. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee, Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Cohen/Kealoha-Blake to extend the meeting until 9:15PM.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Radu.
Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee, Orgain (recused).

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Action: M/S/C Feller/Radu to recommend that the \$795 of funding remaining to be allocated be given to BFHP for the Hub.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Radu.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Lee, Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Feller/Radu to recommend that the \$795 of funding remaining to be allocated be given to BFHP for the Hub.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Radu.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Lee, Orgain (recused).

Action: M/S/C Feller/Cohen to approve the Homeless Commission's final recommendations for funding as documented in the chart "Exhibit A", except for the specific funding recommendations made through the actions taken at tonight's meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Cohen, Feller, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Radu.
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Lee, Orgain (recused).

8. Propose agenda items for the next meeting:

- Grievance Subcommittee recommendations
- City Council Updates:
 - Proposed initiative for "micro-units" to house people who are homeless
 - Ad Hoc Committee updates

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Minutes Approved on: April 12th, 2017

Andrew Wicker, Commission Secretary: 

