

Berkeley Homeless  
Commission

## MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2017

1. Roll Call: 7:03 PM

**Present:** Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara (7:05 PM), Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton (7:15 PM).

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Radu, Lee

**Public:** 9

2. Comments from the Public: Four.

3. Approval of Minutes for meeting of September 13, 2017.

**Action:** M/S/C Orgain/Hirpara to approve the minutes of 10/11/17 as written.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

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

### Update/Action Items

4. Agenda Approval

**Action:** M/S/C Gor/Cohen to re-order the agenda by moving items #10 (Discussion of the option of a sanctioned encampment in Berkeley after the recent eviction notice to encampments along the BART tracks in South Berkeley), #8 (Discussion and possible recommendations on a centralized referral system for shelter, clothing, equipment and other measures needed in inclement weather, and #12 (Discussion and possible recommendations on needed storage for homeless persons), in that order, to appear after item #5 (Staff and Chair updates).

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

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

**Action:** M/S/C Cohen/Orgain to approve the agenda for 11/8/17 as amended.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

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

5. Staff and Chair updates.

Discussion, no action taken.

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6. Discussion of the option of a sanctioned encampment in Berkeley after the recent eviction notice to encampments along the BART tracks in South Berkeley.

**Action:** M/S/C Marasovic/Caldeira that the Homeless Commission recommend that the City of Berkeley provide the First They Came for the Homeless encampment with a location for a tent city which will not be subject to removal absent a major legal violation by the entire encampment community, in addition to working on a longer-term, broader policy that impacts other encampments.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

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

**Action:** M/S/C Cohen/Marasovic that the Chair of the Homeless Commission write a letter, to be presented at the next meeting of the Berkeley City Council, recommending that the Berkeley City Council require the City of Berkeley to adhere to the Nov. 1, 2017 United States District Court order, "Notice for Submission of Plan for Shelter of Berkeley Homeless," and provide winter shelter options to all Berkeley residents suffering from homelessness; and that the City of Berkeley fulfill that plan prior to the winter months, in disaster relief fashion.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Marasovic, Orgain.

**Noes:** None. **Abstain:** Sutton. **Absent:** Kealoha-Blake.

7. Discussion and possible recommendations on a centralized referral system for shelter, clothing, equipment and other measures needed in inclement weather.

**Action:** M/S/C Cohen Orgain that discussion on the item be suspended, and that the item be re-agendized for the January, 2018 regular meeting of the Homeless Commission.

**Vote:** Ayes: Cohen, Hirpara, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

**Noes:** Caldeira, Gor. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Kealoha-Blake.

8. Discussion and possible recommendations on needed storage for homeless persons.

**Action:** M/S/C Caldeira/Marasovic that the Premier Cru wine building site be used as a location for the storage of unhoused people's belongings.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton.

**Noes:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Kealoha-Blake.

9. Discussion and possible action on the Homeless Commission's possible shift from quantitative to qualitative recommendations during the community agency funding process.

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Discussion, no action taken. Discussion to be continued at the next meeting.

10. Discussion and possible recommendations on the Berkeley Housing Authority budget shortfall.

Discussion, no action taken. Discussion to be continued at next meeting.

**Action:** M/S/C Caldeira/Orgain to extend the meeting to 9:15.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Marasovic, Orgain, Sutton  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Kealoha-Blake.

11. Discussion and possible action on City Council's referral to the Homeless Commission to develop a Homeless Youth Policy and recommended programs for the City of Berkeley.

**Action:** M/S/C Caldeira/Orgain that the item be re-agendized at the January 2018 meeting of the Commission and to invite representatives from YEAH! and Youth Spirit Artworks to give a presentation on the matter; and that the Commission form a subcommittee (consisting of Commissioners Caldeira, Gor, Hirpara, and Kealoha-Blake) to address the referral and invite the Commission on Labor to form a similar subcommittee that would meet concurrently with the Homeless Commission's.

**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain,  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Sutton.

12. Possible reconfiguration of the Encampment Subcommittee to include additional or different members.

**Action:** M/S/C Caldeira/Orgain that Commissioner Marasovic be added to the membership of the Encampment Subcommittee.

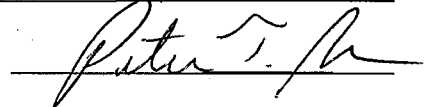
**Vote:** Ayes: Caldeira, Cohen, Gor, Hirpara, Kealoha-Blake, Marasovic, Orgain,  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Sutton.

13. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Minutes Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

1/10/18

Peter Radu, Commission Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_



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