

**City of Alameda, California**  
**SOCIAL SERVICE HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD**  
**THURSDAY, July 22, 2021**  
**Approved MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Sarah Lewis called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Vice President Sarah Lewis, Board members Kristin Furuichi Fong, Tony Lewis, Priya Jagannathan, Dianne Yamashiro-Omi, Samantha Green, and Scott Means.

Absent: None.

City staff: Lisa Foster, Rochelle Wheeler, Lois Butler, Amanda Gehrke, and Eric Fonstein (Secretary to the Board).

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3-A 2021-1157 Review and Approve Draft May 27, 2021 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of May 27, 2021 was made by Board member T. Lewis and seconded by Board member Furuichi Fong. Ayes: Vice President S. Lewis, Board members Furuichi Fong, T. Lewis, and Jagannathan. Nays: none. Note: Board members Yamashiro-Omi, Green, and Means abstained, as they were not present at the meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

**3-A 2021-1158 Review and Approve Draft June 24, 2021 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of June 24, 2021 was made by Board member Furuichi Fong and seconded by Board member T. Lewis. Ayes: Vice President S. Lewis, Board members Furuichi Fong, T. Lewis, Green, and Yamashiro-Omi. Nays: none. Note: Board members Means and Jagannathan abstained, as they were not present at the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

**5-A 2021-1159 Homelessness Strategic Plan Status Report**

Staff member Amanda Gehrke provided a status report on the Homelessness Strategic Plan (HSP), including an overview of the Strategic Plan process to brief the new SSHRB member. Ms. Gehrke expects to present the draft Strategic Plan to SSHRB at the August 26, 2021 meeting for Board comments, returning to SSHRB at the September 23, 2021

meeting with an updated Strategic Plan for final review before presenting to City Council at the October 5, 2021 City Council meeting.

### **5-B 2021-1160 Review and Provide Comment on the Draft Vision Zero Action Plan to Eliminate Traffic Fatalities and Severe Injuries by 2040**

Staff member Lisa Foster presented the draft Vision Zero Action Plan that aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries in Alameda by 2040. Ms. Foster's presentation included data on demographics, locations, and severity of accidents over the past 10 years in Alameda, a map of high injury corridors on the island, and an overview of key action plan goals and prioritization of injury- and fatality-reducing measures. Ms. Foster expects to present the Vision Zero Plan to the Transportation Commission at the September 22, 2021 for feedback before presenting to City Council in late fall. Ms. Foster shared safety improvements and programs that have been or are being implemented. Ms. Foster answered clarifying questions and invited discussion.

Board members expressed appreciation for the thoroughness and quality of the presentation. Following is a summary of discussion points and questions:

- The importance of including an equity lens, particularly as older populations are at higher risk of injury/fatality resulting from accidents. Board member Means offered to attend senior outreach.
- Identification of recurring issues on Encinal Avenue (designated as a highway) between Grand and Sherman Avenues where people drive at higher speeds, and suggested an audible signal at Encinal and High Street. Ms. Foster answered that both Caltrans and the City of Alameda have plans for safety improvements on Encinal Avenue.
- Requested that the bus stops be located closer to ferry terminals. Ms. Foster answered that AC Transit will have direct services to the Seaplane Lagoon terminal for a one-year trial period.
- Suggestion that the speed management graphic be used widely with the general public.
- Encouraged the prioritization of and engagement with the community in socially vulnerable areas, as well as increasing signal time for pedestrian crossing.
- Provide language accessibility services in community engagement, and include education for truck drivers and drivers entering Alameda about the importance of safe driving.
- Suggested reworking graphic representation of the social vulnerability demographics for a more striking presentation.
- Suggested a focus on system change that builds upon the police reform and climate change efforts, as well as providing either an explanation of "socially vulnerable" or renaming the category. Vice president S. Lewis offered the term "priority populations" as an alternative term.
- Suggested adding QR code signs at high incident areas to facilitate reporting near misses and improve data collection.
- Supporting legislation changes to allow non-camera enforcement and advocacy around unbundling police services relating to traffic incidents.
- Expressed SSHRB's support assisting in outreaching to priority communities.

### **5-C 2021-1161 Review and Revise the Draft 2022 Work Plan for the Social Service Human Relations Board, Including Next Steps for "Alamedans Together"**

## **Against Hate”**

Staff member Fonstein presented the draft SSHRB 2022 Work Plan, answered clarifying questions, and invited comments from the Board members regarding the work plan as well as suggestions for next steps for “Alamedans Together Against Hate” (ATAH).

Board members discussed and provided the following comments:

- Develop the work plan at the Board retreat
- Discuss the frequency and degree of monitoring of the Homelessness Strategic Plan (HSP) during a Board retreat,
- Define SSHRB’s role in youth mental health efforts.
- Start preparation for the Community Needs Assessment in May 2022, and the importance of moving beyond qualitative data gathering to include story telling. Board member Green offered her assistance.
- Discuss ATAH at Board retreat and include it as part of Goal #1 and possibly support facilitated conversations within the community about conscious/unconscious bias and race and solicit stakeholder involvement in developing recommendations.
- Add a resources column to the work plan.

## **5-D 2021-1053 Workgroup Reports**

- Homeless Action Plan Workgroup (S. Lewis): Updates presented in item 5-A.
- Youth Mental Health: No updates to report, due to quarterly meetings.
- Domestic Violence (Furuichi Fong): Staff member Fonstein informed that reported incident statistics on January-June remain similar to last year, however, the June statistics showed an increase in reported DV incidents. Repeat DV offenders represent a significant portion of the DV statistics.

## **5-E 2021-1164 Nomination of Officers**

- Sarah Lewis’ name was nominated for President.
- Kristin Furuichi Fong was nominated for Vice President.
- SSHRB members also expressed the desire to simplify the process and hold the nominations and elections at the same meeting in the future.

## **6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **6-A Homelessness Updates and Initiatives**

Ms. Butler provided the following updates:

- Feed Alameda – The program continues serve 105 meals on Wednesdays, and the final Feed Alameda meal is expected to be served on August 11, 2021, when funds run out.
- Transitional Housing Program – Staff received direction from the City Council at its July 20 meeting, to pursue a hotel-based program as well as a community cabin program at the bottle parcel, located on Willie Stargell Avenue.
- Encampments – the Main Street encampment has decreased in size, and the City is continuing to relocate residents and clean up the area. The Bridgeside encampment recently had a fire, and the City is focusing efforts on relocating residents and clean up this new encampment.

- Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) Funding – the City Council accepted staff recommendations that the \$285,000 HHAP funds be allocated to the Day Center, mental health services for moderate to extreme mental health issues among the unhoused, and flexible funding to support unhoused or those in imminent risk of homelessness for items such as emergency hotel vouchers, emergency repairs on vehicles, and assistance in obtaining identification or drivers licenses.

Staff member Butler notified the Board that an item regarding religious holidays will appear on the next meeting's agenda.

## **7. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA**

Vice President S. Lewis notified the board that she will be absent from the August meeting.

## **8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President S. Lewis adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Eric Fonstein, Board Secretary