

City of Alameda, California
SOCIAL SERVICE HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
DRAFT MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Sarah Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

City staff: Eric Fonstein, Lois Butler, Veronika Cole, and Marcie Johnson

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-A Review and Approve April 28, 2022 Draft Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2022 was made by Board member Green and seconded by Board member Yamashiro-Omi. Ayes: President S. Lewis, Vice President Furuichi Fong, Board members Yamashiro-Omi, Jagannathan, Green, and Means. Nays: none. Motion passed 6-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5-A Continued Discussion of the Development and Implementation of the 2022 Community Needs Assessment

President Lewis introduced Angela Irvine, consultant, president of CERES Policy Research. Ms. Irvine shared her background and goals for working with the City on the upcoming focus groups.

Board member Green and Jagannathan presented the list of indicators. SSHRB reviewed the spreadsheet, and discussed suggested indicators. The following is a summary of discussion points and questions:

- Board member Yamashiro-Omi asked if the indicators would reflect disaggregated data. Board member Jagannathan clarified that the indicators will be listed tables, and not interactive.
- Staff member Butler mentioned that the reported population for the City of Alameda may not be accurate, as the Census count was cut off early. Board member Green mentioned an adjusted Census population count, which did not include Alameda. Staff member Butler confirmed she will look into this. Board member Green modified the source for population.

- Ms. Irvine stated that there is a lack of data from COVID-19 years, and wanted to know if SSHRB has experienced the same. Board Member Green confirmed that she has run into the same issue and plans to use the most recent data available.
- Ms. Irvine responded to Board member Yamashiro-Omi concern surrounding the immigration population, stating it is difficult to get data past 2018. She will share available data on Alameda County, which lists country of origin.
- Board member Means said that the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicator may be problematic, as the number of children is merely a total, and does not account for the severity of each learning disability.
- Board member Yamashiro-Omi asked if there is a data source for number of minority-owned, woman-owned businesses. Stating it will be difficult to have a conversation/develop a strategy about inequity without having relevant data. Board member Green stated that SSHRB will be looking to the City to assist with this indicator.
- President Lewis stated that she is hesitant to remove indicators as they are all important, and tell their own story. Emphasizing that SSHRB is setting the stage and the overall goal is to understand the context.
- President Lewis suggested replacing the officer per capita with another indicator regarding overall safety.
- Board member Means suggested consolidating some of the homeless information and adding accessible housing stock availability.
- President Lewis asked the Board if there was anything missing. Board member Yamashiro-Omi highlighted the community concern surround transportation and asked if there is a data source which would help show the lack of public transit. Board member Green shared some of the reports which provide transportation data and agreed it would be an essential indicator to add.
- Board member Yamashiro-Omi mentioned her concern regarding the lack of indicators within the social connection category. Board member Green stated there is a very little data available and suggests this is a topic for the focus groups.
- President Lewis addressed the Board, asking for input on the potential next steps. Board member Green stated the next step is to gather all of the data collected, put into charts and graphs for SSHRB to review, and review at the next SSHRB meeting.
- Ms. Irvine suggested the Board reviews what other cities have determined to be the most important measuring indicators. Board member Means and Jagannathan recommended looking at Portland's eight domains for age-friendly cities; and A Life Course Framework by Andrew Chandler.
- Board members confirmed aiming for July timeline.

5-B Continue the Discussion of SSHRB'S Homelessness Activities

President Lewis opened the discussion by sharing her thoughts regarding SSHRB's role as "public educator," highlighting the need to correct misinformation about what it means to be homeless - focusing on humanizing the issue so people are not afraid.

Board member Green asked if the Point-In-Time (PIT) count has been released, and if there are any upcoming public events or activities around the released information. Staff member Butler stated that the PIT data was released by Everyone Home on May 16, 2022. The City does not have any planned events.

Vice President Furuichi Fong and Board member Yamashiro-Omi, support the idea of highlighting community members and their lived experiences, specifically around their interactions with social service providers.

Board members discussed a community press release and kick-off event with shared stories from the community. Possible collaboration with the College of Alameda, high school students and Shaun Daniels with Castaway.

Board member Yamashiro-Omi suggested mirroring some of the material presented by Alameda Point Collaborative.

President Lewis summarized SSHRB consensus, confirming that it will remain on the agenda for next month's SSHRB meeting.

5-C Workgroup Reports

- Domestic Violence (DV) Task Force (Furuichi Fong): Board member Furuichi Fong attended the May 19 meeting. Discussion included, DV Awareness Month (October) and the need to provide additional resources to the public prior to. With the assistance of DABA & WABA, the Task Force plans to post resource flyers around Alameda, specifically in restrooms at bars and restaurants.
- Alamedans Together Against Hate (Yamashiro-Omi, Furuichi Fong): Board member Yamashiro-Omi confirmed they are still reviewing consultant proposals.
- Infrastructure Workgroup (Lewis, Means): President Lewis shared that they will present four (4) options/recommendations for the Community Service Awards, at next month's SSHRB meeting.

5-D Presentation on City of Alameda's Funding for Social Service Initiatives and Activities

Staff member Butler presented a detailed spreadsheet of the funding sources for Social Services. The following six (6) sources, fund a total amount of \$2,080,054:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Alameda County
- Fleet Industrial Supply Center (FISC)
- General Fund
- Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP)
- Permanent Local Housing Assistance (PLHA)

Board member Jagannathan asked what percentage of the General Fund is spent on social services; how much is being invested into social services? Staff member Butler said she did not know the exact percentage, nor did she think she would be able to pull that information. She directed Board member Jagannathan to the City website, where the Finance Department published the budget.

Staff member Butler noted that staff time was not included in the spreadsheet, however it is included in the budget, published on the City website.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

6-A Status Report on Homeless Services

Staff member Johnson provided the following update:

- Winter Warming Shelter: Services have concluded.
- Dine and Connect: Hosted a volunteer appreciation event, which was well attended.
- Emergency Housing at Alameda Point: City Council passed the rehab/outfitting of three homes.
- Approval of Site A: City Council passed the building of 600 housing units (market & BMR mixed).
- Homeless Encampments: Monthly clean-up with Planning & Building and Alameda Police Department are happening on second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.
- Village of Love: Currently looking for a new location.

7. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

None.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Lewis adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Fonstein, Board Secretary