

Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Social Service Human Relations Board, December 3, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Biggs called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Present were Vice-President Williams, and members Hyman, Radding, Davenport, Blake and Sorensen.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Minutes of SSHRB regular meeting of September 24, 2015 were approved as presented. M/S Williams/Blake Unanimous. The Minutes of SSHRB special meeting of October 29, 2015 were approved as presented. M/S Hyman/Radding Unanimous.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

3. - A COMMENTS REGARDING THE NEEDS STATEMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICES NON-HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17

President Biggs stated that the next item on the agenda is to conduct a public hearing regarding community needs for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public service, non-housing, community development programs for fiscal year 2016 – 17. Typically, this item is led by a staff member from the Housing Authority, who explains the CDBG program, and lets the Board know the anticipated level of funding for the upcoming year. Nonprofit service providers are given notice of this meeting, and invited to attend and provide comments as to the social and community service needs in the city of Alameda.

President Biggs added that, it appears that the notice did not go out to service providers for this evening's meeting, and that, if no one had any other suggestions as to how to proceed, he would entertain a motion to table the agenda item until the Board's January meeting, and he would speak with Housing Authority staff to assure that the appropriate parties are notified of the meeting.

A Motion was made to table item 3.– A until the Board's January meeting.
M/S Sorensen/Radding Unanimous.

3.-B REQUEST FROM ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (AUSD) SUPERINTENDENT SEAN McPHETRIDGE FOR SSHRB TO CO-SPONSOR AND SUPPORT THE "EVERYONE BELONGS HERE" CAMPAIGN

In the absence of Superintendent McPhetridge, Member Hyman began the discussion by sharing that she is a member of the AUSD Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) Roundtable, representing the Alameda Education Association (AEA), and that Member Williams is a member, representing ATAH. She stated that the genesis of the Everyone Belongs Here (EBH) campaign came from a Roundtable discussion regarding

the fact that many LGBTQ students and faculty did not feel safe. During the summer, LGBTQ students worked with a graphic artist to design a poster, and they were joined by Roundtable members to develop a campaign that conveyed the message that everyone has the right to be safe and free from harassment and bullying.

The result was the “Everyone Belongs Here” campaign, with a message that expanded to include all those who might face discrimination and harassment: all races, cultures, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sizes, nationalities, faiths, and abilities. The campaign’s pledge is “To confront all forms of hate, bigotry, and bullying. To not stay silent in the face of intolerance”. Its message is consistent with the Education Code to protect all students from discrimination and harassment.

Member Hyman added that the posters are on display in almost every AUSD classroom. Not by mandate, but by support of AUSD teachers and administration. Superintendent McPhetridge hopes that the poster will hang in every coffee shop in Alameda. The campaign is currently co-sponsored by the Alameda PTA Council, AEA, and the Harvey Milk Day committee.

Staff added that the Alameda Collaborative for Children, Youth, and their Families (ACCYF) has voted to sponsor the campaign. The request tonight is for the Board to support and co-sponsor the EBH campaign, and to encourage the City Council to do the same. Staff added that co-sponsoring this campaign would be consistent with SSHRB’s Charter and Ordinance authority “to create an environment which will encourage and bring about mutual understanding, respect, and goodwill among groups of people in the community” (Alameda Municipal Code Section 2-11.5).

After a short discussion, a Motion was made that the Board support and co-sponsor the Everyone Belongs Here Campaign, and to encourage the Council to do likewise. President Biggs requested a roll-call vote for this item.

M/S Hyman / Williams Unanimous

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

None

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM. M/S Radding\ Williams Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by:
Jim Franz, Secretary