Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Social Service Human Relations Board, August 25, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Member Blake called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were members Hyman, Sorensen, Chilcott, and Hastings. Absent was Vice-President Williams.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the special meeting of July 27, 2016, were approved as presented. M/S Hyman/Chilcott Unanimous

3. AGENDA ITEMS

3.-A ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the special meeting of July 27, 2016, Vice-President Williams was nominated to serve as President, and member Blake was nominated to serve as Vice-President.

A motion was made to approve the slate of officers. M/S Hyman / Chilcott Unanimous

3-B.WORK GROUP PROGRESS REPORTS

Human Relations Workgroup

Member Hyman provided a report on the Human Relations Workgroup (HRW), sharing that they are working on a final report for the Quality of Life Survey that was conducted in 2015. Once completed, the report will be provided to the Council. The survey was conducted at the Earth Day Celebration, the Alameda Spring Festival, and Webster Jam, and received responses from more than 400 Alamedans.

Ms. Hyman provided an overview for new members, explaining that the survey was conducted to ascertain how residents felt about living in Alameda. Participants were asked to rate the overall quality of life in our community, and what they thought were the three most important factors that define quality of life. A good place to raise children, low crime and safe neighborhoods, and good schools rated the highest, followed by parks and recreation, and clean environment. Of those responding, 88% rated the quality of life in Alameda as high or very high, 92% felt Alameda was a good place to raise children, but only 78% rated Alameda as a good place to grow old.

Ms. Hyman Shared that the 3rd Annual City of Alameda Community Service Awards nomination Forms will be available the beginning of September, and, this year, a "Business or Business Person" award has been added. There will be two awards presented in this category. Nominations are due by September 28, and the awards event will be held on Thursday evening, October 27, at the Alameda Elks Lodge. This is the date of our regular Board meeting, and, hopefully, all will be available to assist with the event.

Assessment and Awareness Workgroup

Member Blake reported that she and Member Hastings met with staff on August 2 to begin developing a new Community Needs Survey (CNS). The Board's last CNS was conducted in 2011, with a summary report presented to Council in 2012. It gathered responses from 1911 Alameda households, and was available in three languages (English, Chinese, and Spanish). The group reviewed past surveys, developed a strategy, and developed a timeline for the project. The first step is to identify areas of need in the community, develop sample questions concerning these needs, and share them with organizations working to meet those needs. Member Hastings has created a spreadsheet to help with this process. The plan is to gather input from the community between now and the end of the year, create the survey and develop an outreach plan, and launch the survey in September of 2017. This will allow time for the data to be reviewed, and preliminary findings to be available for the 2018-2019 CDBG process. Board nominee, Kale Jenks, will be invited to attend the next meeting of the group.

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

Staff shared that the "Open Letter to Leaders in the Community" had been sent to the SUN, Alameda Journal, and a number of community leaders.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS NONE

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM M/S Sorensen/Chilcott Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by: Jim Franz, Secretary