

**MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOCIAL SERVICE HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Audrey Hyman (President), Christine Chilcott (Vice-President), Kale Jenks, Jennifer Hastings, Mark Sorensen

Absent: Claudia Medina, Sherice Youngblood

2. MINUTES

Chilcott moved to approve the April 26, 2018 minutes. Jenks seconded. The minutes were approved 4-0 as presented.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

3-A Ana Bagtas introduced herself and presented the Alameda Wellness Center (McKay Avenue project) agenda item.

- Chilcott commented that although she was not at the May SSHRB meeting, she has participated in other community meetings where Alameda Point Collaborative presented on the Alameda Wellness Center project on McKay Avenue. She reviewed all the public comments regarding the project. She stated her support for the project and commented that the issues raised about children's safety and the legality of developing the site for the stated purposes were unfounded. Chilcott recommended that the Board move forward with supporting the project.
- Hastings agreed with Chilcott and stated her support of the project.
- Jenks commented that based on the recently completed Community Needs Assessment, homelessness, senior issues, and medical care were expressed by Alameda residents as areas of need that should to be addressed. The Alameda Wellness Center project will address these issues.
- Hyman made a motion for the Homeless Action Plan Workgroup to work with staff to draft a letter in support of the Alameda Wellness Center. Hyman highlighted some points that should be mentioned in the letter, including addressing the issues brought by public comments, such as concern about children and the legality of building a health center on the site. Measure WW should be addressed in the letter by including the FAQ developed by the City. Hyman made the motion for the Homeless Action Plan Workgroup to write a letter of support in favor of McKay Avenue project. Chilcott seconded. All were in favor.

3-B Eric Fonstein introduced himself and presented on the proposed minimum wage ordinance. SSHRB members provided the following comments on the ordinance:

- Chilcott attended the presentation to the nonprofit Executive Directors. She expressed concern over the proposed timetable of the rollout. Nonprofits develop their budgets for the entire year before the fiscal year starts. Implementing the increase in March will create a bump up in personnel costs in the middle of the fiscal year that is not budgeted. As well, nonprofits will not have a corresponding revenue source to offset the costs because program fees are not changed in the middle of the fiscal year. Fundraising revenue projections are also done by fiscal year.
- Sorensen commented that the minimum wage proposal will impact the business community as well. If wage is bumped up too quickly it will affect businesses. He recommend a gradual, stair-step increase. Sorensen also expressed concern over training issues that this might cause.
- Fonstein responded that businesses have divergent viewpoints about minimum wage.
- Jenks echoed Chilcott's concern about the timetable. He raised the compaction issue and the impact it will have on the exempt versus non-exempt staff. Non-exempt staff's wages would have to be increased commensurately.
- Chilcott said that an unintended consequence of a fast jump may be loss of staff.
- Sorensen expressed that Santa Clara County is not a good comparison because it is already paying higher wages, as is Emeryville. An increase to \$15 for these cities was set for 2015, so they are already there. Alameda is doing a catch up, and the impact is greater.
- Hastings commented that for the workshops with businesses, it would be meaningful to know of the businesses that are articulating great concern about the proposal. It would be a shame to lose businesses in Alameda due to the rapid change. Fonstein responded that the survey may address this.
- Hyman inquired about outreach to partner organizations to publicize the survey e.g. school district. Hyman commented that lots of businesses have non-English-speaking workers and asked that the survey be translated and to make sure workers are aware of the survey.

- Hastings suggested having the survey available in formats other than online
- Lois Butler confirmed that the survey is translated in other languages.

3-C Workgroup Progress Reports

- **Human Relations Workgroup**—Chilcott/Sorensen/Medina: Chilcott reported that “In the Mix” was a successful event with great keynote speakers and panels. Feedback from attendees indicate that the youth panel was most informative. The mixed-race youth panel had recommendations for the schools and to develop curriculum on mixed race. Facilitated table conversations during lunch were also well-received. Breakout groups, such as the sphere of influence, were excellent. Chilcott said that her major take-away was that the attendees appreciate having the event and want it more often to have continuity. As an outcome of the conference, a family meet-up group is now meeting at local parks. Jenks added that a debriefing meeting was held following the event. There were several suggestions that came out of the debriefing, including having a space to talk about mixed-race experiences.

Hyman reported that the Alameda Services Collaborative luncheon sponsored by SSHRB and ACCYF went well. The program was full, the speakers were great, and the tradition of food was excellent. The event was also well-attended. Nonprofits shared what is going on in their agencies. Hyman thanked staff for organizing the event. Chilcott liked the panel on hot topics.

- **Assessment and Awareness Workgroup**—Hastings/Jenks: Jenks and Hastings presented the Community Needs Assessment report to the City Council in June. They thanked Hyman for presenting the report at the luncheon. Jenks and Hastings will continue making the presentations and are happy to provide the data to anyone who wants it. Jenks and Hastings requested that the City Public Information Officer promote that the report is available.
- **Homeless Action Plan Workgroup**—Youngblood/Hyman: no report

4. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Bagtas provided an update on the City’s various initiatives to address homelessness in Alameda. She discussed the Homeless Outreach Team, contracts with nonprofit agencies to provide outreach, housing navigation, and intensive case management, Dine and Connect dinners at a local church,

Parking Meters for the Homeless project, and plans to build a website for homeless resources. Board members provide suggestions on the parking meter project, including having a friendly competition for youth to decorate the meters, fundraiser where nonprofits can compete to raise the most money for a meter, and an Adopt-a-Meter program where Alameda families and individuals can donate funds.

Other staff communication:

- Fonstein announced that the Census Bureau is holding regional workshops on the Census 2020. Fonstein and Bagtas will attend the workshop in San Francisco in July and invited Board Members to sign up if interested.
- Fonstein announced that the Community Service Awards reception is scheduled in October.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- 6. ADJOURNMENT:** Sorensen moved to adjourn the meeting, Chilcott seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.