



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
6:30 PM

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ATTEND AT TWO DIFFERENT LOCATIONS.

MEETING LOCATION #1

2180 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

MEETING LOCATION #2

1447 Kains Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94702

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call
Present: Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman
Absent: None
Quorum: 3 (Attended: 3)
Staff Present: Mary-Claire Katz
Public Present: 8.
2. Agenda Approval
Move item 4 before item 3.
3. Public Comment: 4.

Update/Action Items

The Commission may take action related to any subject listed on the agenda, except where noted.

Berkeley Community Action Agency Board Business

1. Approve minutes from the 2/21/2024 Regular Meeting (Attachment A) – All
Action: M/S/C (Lara Cruz/Behm-Steinberg) to approve the minutes from the 2/21/2024 regular meeting with edits.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.
2. Election of Low-Income Commissioners
Action: M/S/C (Lippman/Behm-Steinberg) to elect Mina Lewinstein as a low-income representative.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.
Public Comment: 1.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the FY25-FY28 Community Agency Request for Proposal (RFP) funding, timeline and process (Attachment B) – All
Action: M/S/C (Lippman/Lara Cruz) to finalize the HWCAC funding recommendations to Council for the FY25-FY28 Community Agency Request for Proposal (RFP) funding; and, to authorize Lara Cruz to draft the HWCAC funding recommendations report to Council.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.
Public Comment: 3.

Action: M/S/C (Behm-Steinberg/Lara Cruz) to extend the meeting to 8:45PM.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.
4. CA State Letter to BCAA RE: 45-Day Notice of Anticipated High-Risk Designation Based on The City of Berkeley's Failure to Maintain Required CSBG Tripartite Board Structure and Failure to Administer Programs Through Tripartite Board; Required Response and Corrective Action Due by March 18, 2024 (Attachment C) – Chair and Staff
Action: M/S/C (Behm-Steinberg/Lippman) to authorize the chair of the HWCAC to send a letter to Council requesting that the HWCAC be provided the draft ordinances to merge the HWCAC and Peace and Justice Commission, and to reform the HWCAC; and, to delay the ordinance to appear on the March 26, 2024 Council meeting agenda until the HWCAC receives and reviews the ordinance.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.
5. Review City of Berkeley funded agency Program and Financial reports (Attachment D) – Staff
 - a. Multicultural Institute program and financial reports
No action taken.

Other Discussion Items

6. Discussion and possible action on the proposed merger of the HWCAC and Peace and Justice Commission – Behm-Steinberg
No action taken.
7. Discussion of Fire Marshal's report and its implications - (Attachment E) – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg
No action taken.
8. Discussion on Public Reverse Mortgage – (Attachment F) – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg
No action taken.
9. Discussion and possible action on difficulties of attaining benefits local residents qualify for from approved providers - Commissioners Behm-Steinberg
No action taken.

10. Discussion and possible action on holding hybrid Commission meetings (Attachment G) – Commissioners Behm-Steinberg
No action taken.
11. Review latest City Council meeting agenda
No action taken.
12. Announcements
No action taken.
13. Future Agenda Items
No action taken.

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Lara Cruz/Lippman) to adjourn at 8:45PM.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Lara Cruz, Lippman. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent – None.

Attachments

- A. Draft Minutes of the 2/21/2024 Meeting
- B. Community Agency RFP applications and budgets
- C. CA State Letter to BCAA
- D. Program and financial reports from Multicultural Institute
- E. City of Berkeley Fire Marshal's Report, FY 2024
- F. Reverse Mortgage Presentation
- G. Draft Council items regarding the reestablishment of hybrid commission meetings

Review City Council Meeting Agenda at City Clerk Dept. or
<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/citycouncil>

Communications

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This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. **Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.**

Secretary:

Mary-Claire Katz
Health, Housing & Community Services Department

Mailing Address:

Human Welfare and Community Action Commission
Mary-Claire Katz, Secretary

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