



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

7:00 PM

South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St. (Corner Ellis/Ashby)
Berkeley, CA 94703

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call: 7:05PM
Present: Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila, Browne (7:30PM)
Absent: Bookstein (excused), Omodele (excused), DaSilva, Trigueros
Quorum: 4 (Attended: 5)
Staff Present: Kristen Lee and Wing Wong
2. Public Comment: 1

Update/Action Items

3. Approve Minutes from the 5/18/2016 and the 6/15/2016 Regular Meetings
Action: M/S/C (Sood/Dunner) to approve the 5/18/2016 minutes as submitted and to approve the 6/15/2016 after changing the word “impractical” to “unworkable” in item #11.
Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Browne, Bookstein (excused), Omodele (excused), DaSilva, Trigueros.
4. Presentation On Police Militarization In The Bay Area
Speaker: 3

Speaker Woods Ervin, representing Stop Urban Shield Coalition, spoke about how police forces in the Bay Area are being militarized through a program called Urban Shield. Urban Shield is an annual training exercise to prepare local police forces for a terrorist-type attack. The Coalition is concerned about three areas: (1) Financial: too much of the national budget is being spent on the military; (2) Police Militarization: local and state governments mirror national spending, rather than spending more on education, Social Security, and other services; and (3) Healthcare: Fire and Paramedics do not have leadership roles in the Urban Shield trainings. Woods stated that the exercises are glorified weapons expos for local governments to test out and purchase new weapons. Moreover, the training exercise is a highly racialized process because the perpetrators in the exercise scenarios are always people of color.

Officers Spencer Fomby and Jen Louis, representing Berkeley Police Department (BPD), spoke about Urban Shield as a critical component of the Incident Command System that cities and counties in the Bay Area participate in during disasters and acts of terrorism. Officer Fomby reported that Urban Shield is a two-day training, paid for by the federal government, focused on a multi-disciplinary team approach to respond to real world events. Police work closely with Fire and Paramedics. Moreover, Urban Shield focuses on medical training and saving lives. In a disaster, each law enforcement team will follow its own policy to support a larger goal. Officer Fomby reported that BPD received a grant as part of Urban Shield to purchase an armored van but no other weaponry. The

City of Berkeley allocates 40% its General Fund to BPD, Fire Department, and Paramedics.

5. Presentation on Commissioner Conflict Of Interest (City Attorney)
Speaker: 1

Kristy van Herick from City Attorney's office spoke about conflict of interest as pertains to commissioners making funding recommendations. Ms. Van Herick reviewed Government Code Section 1090 and discussed financial interests and remote interests. She also reviewed the importance of Commissioners fully disclosing any conflict and recusing themselves from discussions and funding decisions.

6. Review Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Draft Plan for Spending 2016 Targeted Initiative Funds

Action: M/S/C (Sood/Browne) to accept CSBG 2016 Targeted Initiative Funds in the initial amount of \$17,000 and any future amendments that would increase this amount to a maximum of \$35,000.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila, Browne; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Bookstein (excused), Omodele (excused), DaSilva, Trigueros.

Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Davila) to authorize staff Kristen Lee to explore all spending options.

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila, Browne; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Bookstein (excused), Omodele (excused), DaSilva, Trigueros.

7. Review City of Berkeley Funded Agency Program And Financial Reports

A. Family Violence Law Center

B. J-Sei

Commissioners reviewed and discussed the program and financial reports of (A) Domestic Violence & Homeless Prevention Program of Family Violence Law Center and (B) J-Sei senior services for the period of 1/1/2016 to 3/31/2016.

Commissioners were concerned that, of the people J-Sei served, only 29% is low-income.

8. Update On HWCAC Recommendation to City Council on Resources For Sexual Assault Survivors

The Commission submitted a report to City Council requesting the City Manager to improve the provision of resources for sexual assault survivors. At its 7/19/2016 meeting, the City Council adopted the HWCAC recommendation to create a web portal that connects residents to health and wellness resources in cases of sexual violence.

9. Review Draft Memo to City Council on Air Quality in West Berkeley
Continued to 9/21/2016 meeting.

10. Discuss Possible Action Regarding Bike Stations And Bikers Not Using Reflectors at Night

Continued to 9/21/2016 meeting.

11. Review Draft HWCAC Council Report on Berkeley Homeless Policy
Continued to 9/21/2016 meeting.

12. Discuss HWCAC Recommendations to City Council to Change BMC Sections 3.78.030, 040, and 050 Related to Commission Procedures
Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 3.78 is the ordinance governing the functions and procedures of HWCAC.

Action: M/S/C (Sood/Davila) to submit this report to City Council for consideration to amend vacancy and termination procedures.

Vote: Ayes – Sood, McMullan, Davila, Browne; Noes – Dunner; Abstain – None; Absent – Bookstein (excused), Omodele (excused), DaSilva, Trigueros.

13. Discuss Aquatic Park Development
Continued to 9/21/2016 meeting.

14. Review Latest City Council Meeting Agenda
Continued to 9/21/2016 meeting.

Adjournment

Adjourned at: 10:00PM

Minutes approved on: 9/21/2016

Commission Secretary: Wing Wong