



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

7:00 PM

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

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call: 7:20PM
Present: Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila, Choi, Bookstein
Absent: Omodele (excused), Browne
Quorum: 4 (Attended: 6)
Staff Present: Kristen Lee and Wing Wong
2. Public Comment: 0

Update/Action Items

3. Approve Minutes From The 9/21/2016 Regular Meetings
Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Sood) to approve the 9/21/16 minutes with the following change to item# 8, from “support the development of an African American Resource Center” to “support the recommendation by Community Health Commission to develop an African American Resource Center.”
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila; Noes – None; Abstain – Bookstein; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
4. Presentation On Police Militarization In The Bay Area – Speaker From Stop Urban Shield
Speaker Nadya Tannous, 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 speaker stated that the training exercise is a highly racialized process because the perpetrators in the exercise scenarios are always people of color. She asserted that the millions of dollars used on the training should be spent on education, healthcare, and other social services. Fire and Paramedics, rather than police, should have the leadership roles in the trainings, according to Ms. Tannous. The Coalition requests that the commission submit to the City Council the following recommendations: (A) Stop racial profiling; (B) Defund Urban Shield; and (C) direct the Berkeley Police Department to opt out of the training.
5. Approve 2017 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Funding Estimated Allocation
Action: M/S/C (Sood/McMullan) to approve the estimated 2017 CSBG allocation in the amount of \$265,577.
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Bookstein, Sood, McMullan, Davila; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
6. Review City Of Berkeley Funded Agency Program And Financial Reports
 - A. McGee Avenue Baptist Church
 - B. Multicultural Institute

C. SEEDS Community Resolution Center

Commissioners reviewed and discussed the program and financial reports for (A) McGee Avenue Baptist Church Nutrition Program; (B) Multicultural Institute Lifeskills Program; and (C) SEEDS Community Resolution Center Community Mediation & Conflict Resolution Program for the period of 1/1/2016 to 6/30/2016.

7. Review Draft HWCAC Council Report On Air Quality in West Berkeley
Commissioners reviewed a draft communication to the City Council which include a recommendation that City Council engage the West Berkeley community in developing a long-term air quality monitoring program.
Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Dunner) to submit the letter to the City Council with minor edits by Commissioner Sood, the Chair.
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Bookstein, Sood, McMullan; Noes – None; Abstain – Davila; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
8. Discuss Actions To Support Street Spirit Magazine
Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Dunner) to recommend that City Council issue a proclamation to support the Street Spirit Magazine.
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Bookstein, Sood, McMullan, Davila; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
9. Discuss Volunteer Rewards Program For Very Low-Income People Spending More Than 60% Of Their Income On Rent
Commissioners reviewed draft language that would be added to the Request for Proposals for the upcoming community agency funding allocation process to incentivize the creation of such a program.
Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Choi) to submit the language with edits by Commissioner Sood, the Chair, for the upcoming funding allocation process.
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Bookstein, Sood, McMullan; Noes – Davila; Abstain – None; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
10. Update On Council Report To Amend Council Rules Regarding Removal Of Commissioners By Open Government Commission
Commissioners reviewed the report submitted to City Council by the Open Government Commission. A similar amendment was recommended by the HWCAC and Commissioner Sood reported that City Council tabled the HWCAC recommendation on 10/18/2016.
Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Dunner) to authorize Commissioner Sood, the Chair, to write a letter of appreciation to the Open Government Commission for the support in amending the rules to remove commissioners.
Vote: Ayes – Choi, Dunner, Bookstein, Sood, McMullan; Noes – Davila; Abstain – None; Absent – Omodele (excused), Browne.
11. Update On Council Report Regarding Very Low Income Tax Relief Refund Program
Commissioners discussed this program and the need to promote other low-income services. Continued to 11/16/2016 meeting.

12. Update On Council Report Regarding Reserving Very Low-Income In Lieu Units

Kristen Lee reported that changes to the Berkeley Municipal Code Section 22.20.065.c.2 were discussed at the October 18, 2016 Council meeting. The BMC was originally amended to require that all Very Low-Income units required in market rate housing developments be reserved for holders of Section 8 vouchers and Berkeley Shelter Plus Care Certificates. However, City Council removed Shelter Plus Care Certificate Holders from this ordinance. The revised ordinance is on the November 1, 2016 consent calendar.

Action: M/S/C (McMullan/Dunner) to authorize Commissioner McMullan to write a letter to the City Council objecting the removal of the Berkeley Shelter Plus Care Program from the Ordinance.

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

13. Discuss Berkeley Sanctuary City Policy

Continued to 11/16/2016 meeting.

14. Review Latest City Council Meeting Agenda

Continued to 11/16/2016 meeting.

Adjournment

Adjourned at: 9:45 pm

Minutes approved on: 11/16/16

Commission Secretary: Wing Wong