

City of Alameda, California
SOCIAL SERVICE HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD
THURSDAY, April 28, 2022
APPROVED MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Sarah Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: President Sarah Lewis, Vice President Kristin Furuichi Fong, Board members Dianne Yamashiro-Omi, Samantha Green, Scott Means and Priya Jagannathan.

City staff: Eric Fonstein, Lois Butler, Veronika Cole, and Marcie Johnson

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-A Review and Approve March 24, 2022 Draft Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2022 was made by Board member Yamashiro-Omi and seconded by Board member Means. Ayes: President S. Lewis, Vice President Furuichi Fong, Board members Yamashiro-Omi, Green, and Means. Nays: none. Note: Board Member Jagannathan abstained due to absence from meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5-A Discuss the Creation of a Permanent SSHRB Homelessness Subcommittee

Staff member Fonstein made a short presentation of Brown Act, Sunshine Ordinance, and logistical considerations in creating a subcommittee indicating that creating a subcommittee would require a formal vote, which can be placed on next month's agenda.

President Lewis opened the floor for Board discussion. The following is a summary of discussion points and questions:

- Board member Yamashiro-Omi asked for additional information on the subcommittee roles. President Lewis responded, to provide relevant oversight of the City's Homelessness Strategic Plan, such as the community convener and public education components. SSHRB's role would be to help with public education and promotion of homelessness issues.
- Board member Yamashiro-Omi asked if it needed to be a formal subcommittee or if there was an option to meet informally.
- Board member Means asked who on SSHRB would be interested in taking the lead in chairing the subcommittee. President Lewis, Vice President Furuichi Fong,

and Board member Green agreed that it is important for SSHRB to take the lead on homelessness activities and to be involved.

- Board member Means liked the idea of embedding an item in SSHRB's regular agenda to make the discussion a part of SSHRB's regular meetings.
- Staff member Butler recommended that a formal subcommittee, if created by SSHRB, be composed of two SSHRB members.

President Lewis summarized the SSHRB consensus: starting with SSHRB's next meeting, make this item a part of SSHRB's regular agenda so all members can participate in the discussion.

5-B Continue the Discussion of the Development and Implementation of the 2022 Community Needs Assessment

Board member Green and Jagannathan went through community indicators and discussed limitations. The following is a summary of discussion points and questions:

- Board member Jagannathan would like for SSHRB to review/provide input, on the current data collection points and overall end product appearance. The idea is for it to be presented to City Council as a power point documents with the data at the end of the report.
- Staff member Butler emphasized that need for a variety of data collection, to ensure SSHRB is covering indicators identified by City Council and members of the public.
- Board member Green stated that there are limitations to data, and believes the Community Needs Assessment (CNA) will need focus groups to fill in the data gaps.
- Board member Yamashiro-Omi asked about available funding to hire a individual who could facilitate/draft a narrative. And recommended that board members review, Portland and Richmond's, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) strategic plan as an appraisal for the CNA. The Board agreed that it could prepare the document in house, but requested a consultant for facilitating the focus groups.
- Staff member Butler confirmed that there is funding available in the current fiscal year to hire a focus group facilitator. Stating that this individual(s) would need to be on contract, performing work, before June 30.

President Lewis asked for input on what the focus groups would look like, logistically. The following is a summary of discussion points:

- Board member Means suggested, day events at senior centers and evening/weekends for working families.
- Board member Jagannathan suggested, compensating people or providing food during participation, as well as presenting data to the focus groups and asking them if it matches reality.
- Board members Green and Yamashiro-Omi suggested focus groups for individual demographics.
- Board suggested five to six focus groups, with eight to twelve people.

President Lewis provided a summary of the action items for next meeting:

- Board member Yamashiro-Omi will reach out to consultant and put them in contact with staff member Fonstein.
- Board member Jagannathan will provide current list of indicators/data collection sources to staff member Fonstein (who will blind distribute to SSHRB members).
- Board members will continue to think about additional data sources and focus group possibilities.

5-C Workgroup Reports

- Domestic Violence (Furuichi Fong): Next meeting is scheduled for May 19.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

6-A Status Report on Homeless Services

Staff member Cole provided the following update:

- HHAP Contract: The City of Alameda has contracted with Alameda County to provide funding (\$287,767) for the Village of Love, Safe Parking, Day Center (extended hours) and Overnight Services programs. Services will be provided through 2023.
- Community Development will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Homeless Outreach Team, in May.
- Emergency Housing at Alameda Point: Item was moved to the May 3, City Council meeting. Recommended that SSHRB members attend, if available.
- Homeless Encampments: Monthly clean-up will be increasing to two times a month (second and fourth Tuesdays).

7. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

Board member Green wanted to address to open board seat, and requested for a youth member to be considered. Staff member Fonstein provided background information from previous years, highlighting the potential issue of student time constraints.

Board member Means stated, every May, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads the nation's observance of Older Americans Month (OAM).

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Staff member Butler shared that she will be stepping back from her participation in SSHRB meetings, but will continue to oversee board projects.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Lewis adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Fonstein, Board Secretary