

Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Thursday, September 25, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL: Vice President Wasko called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Present were Vice President Chen, Members Nielsen, Villareal, Soglin and James. President Wasko was absent. Staff present was Jones.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from May 22, 2008 were approved as amended M/S Chen, Soglin, with James abstaining because he was not present. The minutes from June 26, 2008 were tabled since a quorum of Members from the June meeting were not present.

3-A. CREATING FORMAL SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH JIANGYIN, CHINA:

Vice President Chen announced that a delegation of government officials and businessmen would be arriving from Jiangyin China on October 1, 2008. He further explained that the Sister City work group is planning a tour day tour of Alameda in honor of their visit. Three large public events will be held, including a flag raising ceremony on Chinese National Day (Oct 1), a signing ceremony to formalize the sister city agreement, and a celebratory dinner hosted at Aroma restaurant. The community will be invited to each of the events. The delegation will also tour Franklin school, the College of Alameda, and the police department. A lunch is being scheduled with members of the business community. Events are being planned in conjunction with several community partners including the East Bay Flag raising Committee and Friends of Wuxi.

The Sister City workgroup is requesting the release of up to \$2010 of workgroup funds to finance the events. The funds requested were donated to the Sister City workgroup by community members and can only be used on Sister City activities, such as this delegations visit. The workgroup is expecting additional donations from community supporters. M/S Nielsen/ Soglin.

3-A. WORKGROUP STATUS REPORTS:

Alamedans Together Against Hate – Member Villareal reported that the workgroup accomplished its FY07-08 goals by hosting 5 forums in conjunction with community partners. The group is now investigating other forum topics, including voter education regarding Proposition 8.

Assessment and Awareness – Member Nielsen reported that the workgroup continues to meet about the dental clinic. A request has been made to Alice Lai Bitker's office to support a case coordinator to help meet immediate dental case management needs. The interim president at the College of Alameda has been contacted about the Dental Clinic project on the campus.

Family Services Workgroup – Staff member Jones reported that the Family Services Workgroup has been absolved and merged with the Assessment and Awareness workgroup, which is working on several issues effecting families and children.

Sister City Workgroup – Vice-President Chen completed his report during Agenda Item-A.

4. **BOARD / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:** None
5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** None
6. **ADJOURNMENT:** Member Chen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m., second James.

Respectfully submitted,

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Melissa Jones
Secretary, Social Services Human Relations Board

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