

Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Social Service Human Relations Board, February 25, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Biggs called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were Vice-President Williams, and members Hyman, Blake and Sorensen, and Davenport. Absent was member Radding.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the special meetings of December 3, 2015, January 7, 2016 were approved as presented. M/S Hyman/Sorensen Unanimous

3. AGENDA ITEMS

**3.-A CITY OF ALAMEDA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17
PRESENTATION BY ROCHELLE WHEELER, TRANSPORTATION PLANNER – CITY
OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

The meeting of February 25, 2016 was not recorded, due to a problem with the tape recorder. Rochelle Wheeler's annotated PowerPoint presentation is included as, (ATTACHMENT A).

Discussion included comments regarding plans to rebrand the program, and no longer use the term Paratransit Shuttle. Some members thought that it was a good idea, because residents might not want to be thought of as old or infirm. Others commented that a more generic name for the program might draw too many riders from the community-at-large, and not leave space for the target ridership.

Ms. Wheeler replied that, while the Paratransit Shuttle is available to the general public, seniors and the disabled will always have priority.

President Biggs commented that, since ridership in the Medical Return Trip Improvement Program (MRTIP) has declined, since going from a free program to charging \$2.50, staff might consider going back to not charging?

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

Member Hyman announced the Walk Together community concert at First congregational Church on Sunday, February 28. The theme of the concert is Everyone Belongs Here, and the event will include presentations by the Alameda Point Collaborative, Building Futures with Women and Children, and the Alameda Food Bank.

Vice-President Williams announced that ATAH held a meeting on Monday, February 1. The meeting was noticed, which allowed President Biggs and member Davenport to attend, in addition to ATAH members Blake and Sorensen. After discussion, the group decided that ATAH would continue to co-Sponsor and support the City of Alameda Season For Nonviolence Campaign and Alameda Harvey Milk Day Celebration, and have a presence on the AUSD LGBTQ Roundtable. They also requested staff to schedule a meeting between ATAH members and APD Chief Roller. Agenda items will include; reports of APD plans to "evict" homeless individuals, living in encampments near the Fruitvale Bridge and at Jean Sweeney Park, and discussion of American / Islamic relations in Alameda following the window breaking incident across the street from the Islamic Center

Vice-President Williams shared that ATAH members also met briefly before this evening's meeting to discuss support or co-sponsorship of the screening of the film Fordson at the Alameda Theatre, which would be followed by a panel discussion. There are plans for an interfaith gathering at City Hall before the screening, followed by the interfaith group marching to the theatre to view the film.

Fordson follows a predominantly Arab-American high school football team from a working-class Detroit suburb as they practice for their big cross-town rivalry game during Ramadan, revealing a community holding onto its Islamic faith and the American Dream while struggling to gain acceptance in post 9/11 America.

ATAH members agreed that it would be reasonable to support the screening, on the condition that the interfaith gathering and screening were separate events, and that the panel following

the screening was limited to AUSD staff and students and lay representatives of the Muslim community.

President Biggs announced that members will receive access to the CDBG applications early next week, and that staff will inform members as to when they need to complete their evaluations.

He added that, on March 3, he will meet with representatives from APD, AFD, AHA, BFWC, AFS, to discuss a plan to collaborate in providing services, including permanent housing, for Alameda's homeless individuals living on the street and/or in encampments.

Staff announced the LVW Meet Your Public Officials event will be on March 31, and reminded members to complete their on-line ethics training.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS NONE

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. M\S Williams / Hyman Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by:
Jim Franz, Secretary