

Social Service Human Relations Board
Minutes of the Special Meeting, Thursday, June 7, 2012

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL** President Wasko called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. Present were: Vice-President Villareal, members Biggs, Holder, Nielsen, and Radding. Absent was: Member Dailey.

President Wasko took **5.ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** out of order and invited Angie Watson-Hajjem, ECHO Housing to address the Board (See Below)

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March 22, 2012 were approved as corrected.
M/S Biggs / Holder Unanimous

3. **AGENDA ITEMS**

3-A. **NOMINATION OF OFFICERS**
Member Biggs nominated President Wasko and Vice-President Villareal for another term.
Member Dailey moved to close the nominations. M/S Dailey / Nielsen Unanimous

3-B. **WORKGROUP PROGRESS REPORTS**

Assessment Workgroup –

President Wasko distributed an Outline of the steps needed to complete the Community Needs Survey report, a timeline that would allow us to have it ready for a presentation at the Council's July 17th meeting. She also distributed materials related to the survey, including a blank survey, census data, and a chart comparing our survey data to that of the census.

She noted that the committee (President Wasko, Members Biggs and Radding, and staff) had worked very hard to get to this point in the process, and that everyone's help was needed to help complete the writing of the report.

Member Radding expressed his appreciation for the work done by President Wasko and Member Biggs.

Writers were identified to complete questions related to services, facilities, special needs services / disabilities, and a summary of Alameda Services.

In addition to a report being completed, non-profits will receive data related to their services.

Resource Sharing Workgroup

Member Biggs shared that the RSWG had met twice and that their primary focus is coming up with a process by which non-profits can work collaboratively to raise funds. A "Community Fund" model is being discussed, along with major community fundraisers that would benefit a number of agencies. In addition to fundraising, identifying ways to help organizations build capacity is also being discussed.

Member Biggs announced "Equipped For Success", a collaborative effort to collect backpacks and school supplies for youth-in-need, as an example of resource sharing. Partners in this program included APC, AEF, and the Boys & Girls Club.

Awareness Workgroup

Member Nielsen distributed a draft 2102 / 13 work-plan for the Assessment Workgroup and noted the importance in having one definition of “Safety-Net” services. (Attachment A)

Alamedans Together Against Hate Workgroup

Member Villareal announced that the final NIOT screening event, also a celebration of Harvey Milk Day, was a big success. Having AUD as an additional partner and holding the event at Wood MS was a plus. ATAH will continue to partner with AMCC, COA, AUD and others to develop a format for additional presentations next year.

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

President Wasko announced that Alameda’s 2012 100 Best Communities For Young People application has been submitted. This year applications were by invitation only.

Member Nielsen reported that the Alameda Sister City Association (ASCA) facilitated the hosting of a delegation from Jiangyin China at City Hall. Mayor Gilmore, Vice-Mayor Bonta, Councilmember Tam, and ASCA officers and members were on hand to welcome them.

Member Holder announced AMCC’s upcoming Tea and Justice event.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Angie Watson-Hajjem, ECHO Fair Housing Specialist, explained that she works with tenants, landlords, and property managers regarding issues of discrimination, and that ECHO also has counselors that provide rental assistance and mediation between tenants and landlords regarding other housing issues. She noted that one of the most prevalent forms of housing discrimination is regarding reluctance to rent to families with children. ECHO recently undertook a Fair Housing Audit regarding disabled individuals seeking to rent and needing reasonable modifications to their new apartment. According to Fair Housing law, potential landlords must allow but need not pay for these modifications. Of the ten who applied in Alameda, seven received different treatment than potential renters not needing modifications. (A copy of the Fair Housing Audit Report is attached). Ms. Watson also informed the Board that ECHO still has HUD (HPRP) rental assistance funds available until the end of September.

President Wasko thanked Ms. Watson for her presentation, and for the work done by ECHO.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn M/S Villareal/ Holder Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 9:20

Respectfully Submitted: Jim Franz – Secretary