

## **DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED**

### **Social Service Human Relations Board**

#### **Minutes of the Special Meeting, Thursday, February 28, 2013**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL** President Wasko called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were: Vice-President Villareal, members Biggs, Radding, Watkinson  
Absent was: Member Williams

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting, January 31, 2013 were approved as amended.

M/S Radding / Watkinson Unanimous

3. **AGENDA ITEMS**

3-A. **REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICES FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FY 2013-14**

**CLAUDIA YOUNG – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MANAGER, CITY OF ALAMEDA** ACTION item with a suggested time limit of **60 minutes**

**Claudia Young** narrated a PowerPoint presentation, first explaining reviewing the CDBG guidelines and timetable, and then explaining the sequestration process. In anticipation of the expected fund reductions of 6% to 8% that will be announced on March 1, staff has planned conservatively and has built an 8% cut into the 2013/14 CDBG budget. In the event the cuts do not take place, these funds will be available for reprogramming later in 13/14. The total Public Service Funds available are \$162,942, approximately \$20,000 less than last year. This year, six organizations submitted proposals for funding, This was 40% less that the ten received last year, and is most likely a result of this year's single Safety Net Services funding priority. Taking the Boards priority recommendations that were approved by the Council, the three person panel (Young, Wasko, Franz) reviewed the proposals, and was able to fund all requests at amounts equal to between 92% and 100% of their requests.

On April 16, the Council will hold another Public Meeting to consider the full CDBG funding recommendations, including the public service recommendations reviewed this evening. Once approved, grant agreements and scopes of work will be prepared and agencies will have access to the funds starting July 1, 2013.

Ms. Young distributed a copy of the Scopes of Work for agencies receiving CDBG funding.

#### **Speakers:**

**Liz Varela, Executive Director – Building Futures with Women and Children (BFWC)** thanked the Board for their generous and continued support of BFWC and explained that, with continued cuts and loss of funding from a number of sources, it becomes harder and harder to keep Midway Shelter operating at current levels. She also shared that the Homeless Prevention funds in the allocation recommendation will be used in combination with other funds that will help pay for both staffing and direct services.

**Marjorie Rocha, Executive Director – ECHO** thanked the application review committee and the Board for reconsidering Landlord / Tenant Mediation Services as a basic need. She highlighted the importance of tenants having a place to go for counseling and tenant's rights information. She asked the Board to please support the staff recommendation.

**Rebecca Bauer, Executive Director – Family Violence Law Center** greeted the Board and explained that, while she was not well, she felt it was important that she come tonight to express the FLVC's gratitude for the continuing support of their programs to provide education, prevention and intervention services for victims of domestic violence.

**Hank Leeper, Executive Director – Alameda Food Bank (AFB)** said that he realized that the Board had difficult decisions to make and he and the AFB Board felt that SSHRB had made the right choice when deciding to make food and shelter funding priorities. The AFB will continue to provide substantial, nutritious food packages to low-income Alamedans.

#### **Discussion:**

President Wasko thanked the speakers, adding "I wish we had more money to give". She encouraged agencies to come to us for letters of support when they submit other grants. She also noted that, while Bananas did not apply for a grant this year, they let us know that they will continue to provide child care vouchers to Alamedans using other funding sources.

Member Biggs said he thought that the Board would be receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter reports for agencies funded this year, instead of proposed Scopes of Work included in 13/14 proposals.

Responses to questions asked by the Board included:

- This year's application had a question regarding how agencies leverage funding.
- Four Bridges change from serving 40 clients with \$25,000 in 12/13 to 10 clients with \$10,000 13/14 is due to the agency also counting Alameda County clients served last year. This year's request reflected serving only clients living in the City of Alameda.
- We will have an additional \$12,000 available if there is no sequestration.
- The Board will have input on the reprogramming of any CDBG Public Service funds.
- Staff performed site visits at FVLC, ECHO, and Four Bridges. All were on target to meet their numbers this year.
- Next year we will consider adding "Outcome" questions to application.
- Alameda Boys & Girls Club had a good 2<sup>nd</sup> Q report, but understands they do not provide a safety net service, and did not apply for public service funds. They may apply for capital improvements to support their nutrition program.

Motion to approve staff recommendation for CDBG Public Service funds.

M/S Villareal / Radding                      Unanimous

**3-B    REQUEST FOR BOARD TO CONSIDER CO-SPONSORING ALAMEDA'S 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HARVEY MILK DAY CELEBRATION ON MAY 20, 2013, AT ENCINAL HIGH SCHOOL.**

**VICE-PRESIDENT VILLAREAL      ACTION item with a suggested time limit of 15 minutes**

**Vice-President Villareal** shared that Alameda was one of only four communities in California to hold a Harvey Milk Day Celebration in 2010, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration will be held on May 20, at Encinal High School, from 5:30 to 7:30. Event sponsors are the City of Alameda Harvey Milk Day Celebration Committee and the Alameda unified School District. The Keynote Speaker will be Anne Kronenberg, Milk's campaign manager for his successful bid for Supervisor in San Francisco. The Oakland / East Bay Gay Mens Chorus will perform, and there will be participation from AUSD Gay Straight Alliances, and Alameda's inclusive faith communities. He added that he is co-chairing the event with Jim, ATAH has been involved since the beginning, and he is requesting that SSHRB / ATAH be co-sponsors of the event. There is no financial obligation, and, in addition to adding their name to the list of co-sponsors, members would be encouraged to both attend and help publicize the event.

Motion for SSHRB / ATAH to sponsor Alameda's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvey Milk day Celebration.  
M/S Wasko / Watkinson Unanimous

### 3-C. **WORKGROUP PROGRESS REPORTS** –

President Wasko, Assessment and Awareness Workgroup Chair shared that she had made a presentation on the results of the 2012 Community Needs at the Alameda Kiwanis Club. At the January meeting, the Board heard presentations by Sean Cahill and Diego Gonzalez requesting the inclusion of questions regarding Alameda's LGBTQ community in the Board's next survey. They also requested the Board's assistance in helping with the creation of a survey specific to the needs of that community. Anticipating similar requests from organizations representing other groups, President Wasko agreed to prepare a draft of a Needs Survey Template, which will be reviewed by the A&A work group, and made available to the community.

President Wasko announced that Girls Inc. is conducting an online survey and still needs more participants to make the data relevant. Board members are encourage to complete the survey and to encourage others to do the same.

Member Biggs, Resource Sharing Workgroup Chair reported that the second meeting of Alameda non-profit Executive Directors will take place on April 20, and include a presentation by President Wasko regarding collaborative grant opportunities that are available.

Vice-President Villareal, Alamedans Together Against Hate Workgroup Chair announced that ATAH is considering writing a letter to the Alameda Council BSA and / the media regarding the BSA's discriminatory policies.

### 4. **BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA**

Member Biggs announced a Crab Feed Benefitting APC at the O'Club, on March 1.

Staff announced that he would poll the Board regarding combining the March and April and the May and June meetings. This is a time of year when we traditionally have fewer items on our agendas.

**5      ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.  
M/S Biggs / Villareal

Respectfully submitted by:  
Jim Franz  
Secretary