

**Social Service Human Relations Board**  
**Minutes of the Special Meeting, Thursday, July 15, 2013**

**1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

Vice- President Villareal called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Present were members Biggs, Radding, Watkinson, Williams, Robles-Wong, and Blake.

Vice-President Villareal welcomed new member Blake.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting, May 30, 2013, were approved as amended.

M/S Robles-Wong / Biggs Unanimous

**3. AGENDA ITEMS**

**3.-A NOMINATION OF OFFICERS**

Vice-President Villareal nominated member Biggs for President, and member Biggs nominated Vice-President Villareal for Vice-President. Nominations were closed by consensus and staff will put the election on the August 19, 2013 agenda.

**3.-B WORK SESSION WITH THE BOARD AND IT'S WORKGROUPS**

The discussion included a review of the Board's workgroup process, a description of each workgroup's activities, and a discussion of what 2013/14 activities might look like. The Assessment and Awareness Workgroup recently coordinated the Board's highly successful Online Community Needs Survey, which gathered responses from 1,900+ Alameda Households, as to their perceptions of a wide-range of community needs. Information gathered has been presented to non-profits, the ACCYF, and a number of City departments. In 2011, the workgroup also compiled a Community Resource Guide. Results from the survey have been used by non-profits in their preparation of grant requests, and by staff and the Board in formulating their recommendations for CDBG funding. Surveys are usually conducted every +/- five years. There has been discussion as to whether the next survey should happen sooner, and this will be decided after feedback has been received from City departments and community organizations as to how or if they are using the current survey as a tool. Staff will poll City departments and community organizations to gather this information.

The Resource Sharing Workgroup was formed to help determine how non-profits might come together to work smarter, share community resources, collaborate, and avoid duplication of services. Examples of success in collaboration include the 2012 Equipped 4 Success Community School Supply Drive, which raised funds and donations to serve 900 low-income Alameda students, and Alameda's Toys For Tots Program. A Forum of west end service providers focused on mental health issues which resulted in Alameda Family Services establishing a clinic at the west end Woodstock site.

A group of non-profit EDs and City department heads have also begun to meet to discuss ways in which they might collaborate to maximize resources. Member Biggs attends these meetings and will

act as the Board's liaison to that group.

The Alamedans Together Against Hate Workgroup stands ready to react to reported hate crimes or incidents of discrimination, and also works with community organizations to help create harmony in the community. Members have a presence on the AUSD LGBTQ Roundtable and played a leadership role in producing this year's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvey Milk Day Celebration. Two years ago, the workgroup partnered with AMCC, the College of Alameda, and AUSD to present a series of Not In Our Town Film / Discussion events.

There was also a discussion regarding forming a Human Relations Workgroup, which would include educational, cultural, and community building activities to help the community understand and appreciate Alameda's diversity. A "human relations" focused survey may be included as one of the workgroup's activities. Member Robles-Wong shared his experience working in partnership with the Alameda Library related to the recent Asian / Pacific Islander Cultural Festival, and his long history of hosting and coordinating Chinese exchange student visits as types of activities that would be part of, or relate to, this new workgroup.

The discussion ended with members voicing which workgroup(s) they would be interested in joining, or continue to participate in.

Assessment and Awareness---Members Biggs and Radding

Alameda Together Against Hate --- Vice-President Villareal and Member Williams

Human Relations --- Members Robles-Wong, Watkinson, and Blake.

Staff will provide a "Workgroup Planning Chart", used in the past as a tool for workgroups, to determine 2013/14 goals, objectives, and activities.

## 6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

M/S Robles-Wong / Williams Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by:

Jim Franz  
Secretary