

Social Service Human Relations Board
Minutes of the Special Meeting, Thursday, April 15, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL** President Wasko called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were: Soglin, Nielsen, James, Dailey, and Biggs. Absent was: Vice President Villareal, Staff: Franz

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The Minutes of the Regular March 25, 2010 meeting were deferred to the May Regular meeting

3.

3-A. **REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICES FUNDING**

ALLOCATION- Terri Wright made a presentation on the staff recommendations for CDBG funding for a 1 year FY 10/11 cycle. This year's allocation is an increase from last year because of an unexpected sale/payoff. She explained why two of the requests were not being funded. McCullum Youth Court has not been able to track serves provided to low- and moderate-income Alamedas, which is essential to receiving funding. Instead of being funded, they have been asked to work with AIA, who has been given \$15,500 to implement a pilot program with McCullum Youth Court for a peer justice program. ECHO's Rental assistance program was also not funded because they would have needed to include a lead based paint component, and they also have HPRP funds, which they can use to serve Alamedans.

Except for the Food Bank and Boys & Girls Club, the other recipients received an increase. The 19% increase to Bananas will help fill the gap created by the announced closing of the College of Alameda Childcare program. Last year, the Food Bank received a one-time, fund-raising capacity building allocation of \$10,000. The Boys & Girls Club received 15% less than last year, to mirror their reduction in services until the new facility is finished. Any additional funds available for next year will be allocated after a review of needs at that time.

Speakers

Paul Russell, Executive Director of the Alameda Food Bank thanked staff for recommended funding, explaining that they understood that the extra \$10,000 last year was a one-time allocation. He explained that the increase in number of households enrolling has seemed to level off. They are still serving a record number of people and the new customers have changed from people being laid off, to people in the service industry and even some small business owners. The benefit from the capacity building grant will take some time to evaluate, but fundraising has kept up with demand.

Margi Rocha, Executive Director of ECHO said that she supports the de-funding of the Rental assistance component of their services, and will continue to work to identify other rental programs to benefit Alamedans. She also said she appreciated the increase in funding for their Housing Counseling program.

Doug Biggs, Executive Director of APC thanked staff for the increase in funding for the VITA program APC operates the program at a loss, but continues to administer it because of its value to the community. He said many clients immediately use their tax refund to pay their rent.

In response to questions from the Board, Terri explained: AIA and McCullum had already been in conversation regarding this partnership program, which they will need to put in place by September. While Midway has increased their stay to 90 days, they will still be able to meet their goal of 200 served.

FVLC has a presence at APD in addition to the hospital, and acknowledged President Wasko's comment that she thought that access through the Hospital is best for the DV victims.

The CDBG scoring criteria has been in place for many years. As a result of the Board's recommendation, "leveraging of resources" was added this year.

After a discussion it was agreed to support staff's recommendation for funding.

Member Dailey thanked Terri Wright for her presentation, and made a motion to "Recommend approval of staff's recommendation for CDBG funding FY 10-11"

M/S Dailey/James Unanimous (with Biggs/Soglin abstaining)

The recommendation will go before the City council on May 4. President Wasko will be out of town, and members Dailey and James will be present at the meeting to represent the Board.

3-B. **REQUEST FOR ATAH / SSHRB TO CO-SPONSOR HARVEY MILK DAY EVENT**

Speaker: Sean Cahill made a presentation on the planned Harvey Milk Day event at the College of Alameda on May 22nd and requested that SSHRB / ATAH consider being a co-sponsor. Mr. Cahill is working with Councilmember Matarrese to help organize the event. Last October, the Governor signed into law a Bill to recognize May 22nd as Harvey Milk day in the State of California. The May 22nd celebration at the College of Alameda is currently co-sponsored by the College and Councilmember Matarrese, with plans to approach other organizations. The Gay Men's Chorus, Reverend Laura Rose and Rabbi Alan Bennett have confirmed to participate (Rabbi Bennett will provide a taped speech). The school board has placed a discussion regarding participating on their agenda, and the City Council will also be approached for support. Various organizations will have tables at the event, which will last 2 hours. If they agree to co-sponsor, the Board will be made aware as further details are confirmed for the event.

President Wasko asked why Councilmember Matarrese is organizing the event instead of the City Council. Mr. Cahill said that the City Council would be requested to support and prepare a Proclamation for the event. The Board was assured that Frank is organizing this event as a Councilmember and not as a Candidate for Mayor.

After a discussion, a motion was made for "the SSHRB and ATAH to co-sponsor the Harvey Milk Day celebration at the College of Alameda on May 22nd." M/S Nielsen/Biggs Unanimous

3-C. **WORK GROUP PROGRESS REPORTS** - Information – 15 minutes

Assessment and Awareness Workgroup – Nielsen

A Health Is Not Just Health Care meeting was held in San Leandro, and presentations were made by

Alameda, San Leandro, and San Lorenzo as to how they have included HINJHC activities in their communities.

Sister City Workgroup – Wasko

The Delegation from WUXI is scheduled to arrive on May 18th, and an Exhibit of their Art is planned at the Alameda Adult School, including an official welcoming from the Mayor and/or City Council. A trip to China in August is still being considered if enough people are available and interested in going.

Resource Sharing Workgroup – Biggs

The workgroup (Biggs & Dailey) met with member Nielsen to discuss how they could work in partnership with the A&AW. Ideas included adding community members to the group and also reviewing the 100 Best Communities application for ideas.

4. **BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA** - Information - 10 minutes

Member Soglin reminded members of the upcoming AIA Film Festival on May 6th, which will include 8 films produced by youth.

Member Biggs announced that a book vending machine in front of the APC offices would have its Grand Opening on June 30th.

President Wasko asked that staff make a report on members being able to text, twitter, etc. during Board Meetings.

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** - Information - 3 minutes per speaker

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

M/S to Adjourn James/Biggs 9:25 Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Franz
Community Development Coordinator