



MINUTES

Community Services Commission Meeting

May 19, 2021 @ 7:00 pm

Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541 – Remote Participation

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING AVAILABILITY: Webinar ID: 953 1428 3593#; Passcode: 214572701

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairperson Arzo Mehdavi

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Emily Chow

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

- Crystal Arrizon, Commissioner
- Artavia Berry, Commissioner / Vice Chairperson
- Magdalena Cerna, Commissioner
- Varsha Chauhan, Commissioner
- Emily Chow, Commissioner
- Arti Garg, Commissioner
- Janet Kassouf, Commissioner
- Arzo Mehdavi, Commissioner / Chairperson
- Linda Moore, Commissioner
- Afshan Qureshi, Commissioner
- Mick Rubio, Commissioner / Parliamentarian
- Lenora Taylor, Commissioner
- David Tsao, Commissioner

Members Absent:

- Corina Vasaure, Commissioner

Council Liaison:

- Council Member Sara Lamnin

Staff:

- Jessica Lobedan, Acting Community Services Manager
- Carol Lee, Management Analyst
- Evelyn R. Olivera, Senior Secretary

Public Comments:

- Former Commissioner Alicia Lawrence announced her resignation from the Commission due to relocation to Southern California, accepted by the City Council on May 18, 2021. Ms. Lawrence expressed her gratitude to serve on the commission and encouraged the Commission to continue its good and necessary work.

- Mr. Ronnie Stewart, Executive Director, West Coast Blues Society and presenter of the First Annual Hayward Juneteenth and Russell City Concert Series. Mr. Stewart urged an increase of funding and requested the Commission to re-evaluate their recommendation; \$15,000 was requested in the FY21-22 application, the Commission recommended \$10,000. Mr. Stewart also expressed his desire to distribute the funding granted in advance of the regular payment schedule.

Approval of Minutes of the Community Services Commission Meeting on March 17, 2021

- A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Commissioner Mick Rubio with a second by Commissioner Artavia Berry. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Discussion:

Debrief FY 2021 – 2022 Community Agency Funding Process

Ms. Lobedan voiced her appreciation for the Commission’s dedication to the Funded Agency Application Process. Ms. Lobedan also provided debrief of CAF and potential changes to application process, concern regarding demographic data section to the process, including the leadership of organization.

Ms. Lobedan proposed to accumulate current commissioner feedback from this discussion and provide “Next Steps” process at the next CSC meeting scheduled for June 16, 2021.

Federal Stimulus Funding: Review and Discuss Staff Recommendations for Allocating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Ms. Lobedan provided an overview of proposed funding distribution of ARPA Federal Stimulus Funding with staff recommendation allocate funding based on Commission’s guidelines from most recent (Fiscal Year 2022) funding application review process and prioritize stimulus funding allocation to the categories of food, health, and housing.

Additionally, staff recommended allocating an additional \$5,000 to the West Coast Blues Society using one-time general funds.

- A motion to allocate \$5,000 in one-time general funds to the West Coast Blues Society was moved by Commissioner Arti Garg with a second by Commissioner Lenora Taylor was unanimously approved.
- A motion to proceed with the recommendation to allocate funding, according to percentages previously established, up to original requested amount but not to exceed, with the agreement to return to Commission for further discussion of any remaining available funds, was moved by Commissioner Lenora Taylor with a second by Commissioner Linda Moore was unanimously approved.

Community Conversations on Policing

Ms. Lobedan announced to the Commission that City Manager McAdoo will be in attendance for the CSC Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 2021, to have a more robust conversation on current program projects staff is currently working on. The conversations on policing will continue.

CSC Agenda Planning Calendar

A motion to amend the calendar, as identified by Evelyn, was moved by Commissioner Lenora Taylor with a second by Commissioner Arti Garg. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council Liaison / Commissioner / Staff Announcements

- Commissioner Arti Garg announced she is speaking on a panel, Thursday, May 20, 2021, on how to engage with the community to advance racial equity. The event is sold out however a YouTube live stream will be available to all.
- Commissioner Artavia Berry announced a nomination from Hayward. A local Foster Mom was honored with the Jefferson Award and elevated to national level of recognition for her care and fostering of over 80 foster babies.

Adjournment at 10:31 p.m.