



MINUTES

Community Services Commission Meeting

July 15, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING AVAILABILITY: Phone No. 415.915.0612; Conference ID: 688 077 363#; Monica Davis Host – 24327

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Arzo Mehdavi

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Jose Lara Cruz

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

- Artavia Berry, Commissioner
- Varsha Chauhan, Commissioner
- Emily Chow, Commissioner
- Jose Lara Cruz, Commissioner
- Arti Garg, Commissioner
- Janet Kassouf, Commissioner
- Alicia Lawrence, Commissioner
- Arzo Mehdavi, Commissioner / Chairperson
- Linda Moore, Commissioner
- Zachariah Oquenda, Commissioner
- Afshan Qureshi, Commissioner / Parliamentarian
- David Tsao, Commissioner
- Corina Vasaure, Commissioner / Vice Chairperson
- Rachel Zargar, Commissioner

Members Absent:

- Michael Francisco, Commissioner
- Saira Guzman, Commissioner
- Isabel Pimentel, Commissioner

Council Liaison:

- Council Member Sara Lamnin

Staff:

- Monica Davis, Community Services Manager
- Jennifer Ott, Deputy City Manager

Public Comments:

- Ronnie Stewart, Executive Director, West Coast Blues Society (WCBS), expressed disappointment that it appears the application submitted by the WCBS was not

reviewed and there was no mention of the organization at the City Council meeting. He continued to express the importance to continue the cultural aspect of the Black and Latin communities within Hayward and its historical ties to Russell City and its cultural contributions to the Hayward community. Mr. Stewart also requested information from the Community Services Commission as to why the funding was not granted to WCBS this funding period. Deputy City Manager shared that no special events funding was offered this year due to COVID-19 and that staff would follow up with Mr. Stewart.

Approval of Minutes of the Community Services Commission Meeting on June 17, 2020

- A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Commissioner Linda Moore with a second by Commissioner Janet Kassouf. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussion:

Commissioner Letter of Support

During the June 17, 2020 CSC meeting the Commissioners requested to write a letter of support of Black Lives for review and approval by the full CSC of which a subcommittee was formed with Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Chauhan, Commissioner Garg, Commissioner Guzman, Commissioner Lawrence, Commissioner Moore and Commissioner Vasaure to draft a letter of support for the full CSC to review. Commissioner Lawrence presented an overview of the letter and the corresponding attachments.

Motion No. 1: Commissioner Garg made a motion with a second by Commissioner Zargar for the Commission to adopt the Letter of Support that would include all three (3) attachments in the submission of the letter to the City Council for review. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion No. 2: Commissioner Linda Moore made a motion with a second by Commissioner Mehdavi to adjust the recommendation for the 6 to 9-month period to be inclusive of all Boards and Commissions to reflect the diversity of Hayward. The motion passed unanimously.

After approval, Ms. Davis agreed to make the approved updates to the Letter of Support and attachments and transmit these documents to the City Councilmembers in advance of the July 21st City Council meeting.

CSC Agenda Planning Calendar

Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Agenda Planning Calendar was updated as follows:

- Update: Welcome of New Commissioners

Council Liaison / Commissioner / Staff Announcements

- Councilmember Lamnin provided the following information: Council Presentation of Juneteenth Proclamation at the June 16, 2020 Council Meeting. On July 14, 2020, the Council put forth a ballot measure for the November ballot to amend the City Charter to eliminate the qualified electorate requirement for Boards and Commissions, so that there will not be a citizenship requirement. At the July 21, 2020 City Council meeting will include a discussion on community engagement.
- Commissioner Mehdavi announced Commissioner Guzman's departure from the Community Services Commission to continue her education in pursuit of her master's degree. Her service to the CSC is appreciated.
- Commissioner Oquenda announced his pride for the CSC creating the Letter of Support statement. He also announced more opportunity to be involved in the promotion of anti-racism within the HUSD. Please contact Commissioner Oquenda, should there be any interest in becoming involved.
- Commissioner Zargar announced this was her last meeting and thanked the CSC for the amazing experience. It has been a privilege to serve on the Commission.
- Commissioner Garg announced on July 30, 2020, the Alameda County Community Food Bank will be conducting a Virtual Townhall Meeting regarding the response to the COVID Emergency and meeting the needs of the community. Commissioner Garg also discussed that the Oakland Zoo was struggling to feed the animals and was in danger of closing. Councilmember Lamnin updated with a mention that the Oakland Zoo received a waiver to remain functioning.
- Commissioner Berry announced her organization, Multiplying Good, along with KPIX, is running a special national campaign called "The One in A Million Awards Program". The program runs through August 31, 2020, its intention is to highlight everyday people working within community services aspects, working hard around issues with the pandemic and racial equity. Nominations are currently being accepted with a goal of receiving one million nominations across the country for doing good. Commissioner Berry encouraged the Commissioners to nominate people they may know that are doing good in their communities.
- Commissioner Chauhan requested a link to the Virtual Townhall meeting being conducted by the Alameda County Community Food Bank, previously mentioned by Commissioner Garg.

Adjournment at 9:01 pm