



Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) Business Meeting Minutes

Location: 1470 Civic Court, Suite 200, Concord CA 94520



Date: 05/9/2019

Time Convened: 6:20 pm

Time Terminated: 7:52 pm

Recorder: Mele Lolohea

Attendees:, Tanya Brown, Armando Morales, Devlyn Sewell, Tricia Piquero, Acaria Almeida, Monisha Merchant, Kimberly McCarl, Samuel Houston, Dawn Miguel, Lauren Babb, Ajit Kaushal, Cloudell Douglas

Absentees: Renee Zeimer, Michelle Chenault, Camila Rand, Mele Tupou Lolohea

Staff: Christina Reich, Nancy Sparks

Quorum: Yes

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY
Review Desired Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miguel called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM. Miguel read the desired outcomes.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None present Sparks called out the roll to ensure there was a quorum.
<p>Action: Review and approval of the March 14, 2019 and April 11, 2019 Business Meeting minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group reviewed the March 14, 2019 and April 11, 2019 Business meeting minutes and no changes were made. <p>A motion to approve the March 14, 2019 and April 11, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Merchant and second by Piquero.</p> <p>The motion passed with EOC members voting as followed: Ayes: Houston, Morales, Sewell, Piquero, Kaushal, Brown, Miguel, Merchant and McCarl Nays: None Abstentions: Absent: Zeimer, Douglas, Almeida and Chenault</p>
Debrief of the Public Hearings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff praised all the EOC members for a great job during the public hearings. Sparks mentioned this year was the best compared to the public hearing in the past with the help of our community partners. Sparks stated all the information during the public hearings was transferred over to a word document and sent to the group. Reich analyzed the top themes from the hearings and roundtable, which included housing, health services, food and jobs. Sparks mentioned homelessness was mentioned at all

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	<p>four public hearings. She also stated that much of what was mentioned by the public during the hearings relates to the priority areas that are already in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houston agreed that many of the priorities stayed the same but believed there should be more emphasis on Mental Health services. Houston explained there are many factors that go into health and the levels of stress for community residents. He further explained that income and not being able to meet the living expenses are just some of the few things that make the mental aspect of the day-to-day a lot harder for people in the community. • Piquero shared that it was her first public hearing and an eye opening experience. She felt giving everyone a chance to speak was empowering and healing for those in attendance. She explained that something shared by the public was a need for a multi-service building. Currently, a multi-services building is being built in Pittsburg. Piquero expressed it was a positive experience for everyone involved. • Morales shared he was able to speak with a person whose stated that their health was worsening and when requesting health services, he was not able to obtain them due to not having the proper identification. Morales stated that identification services are important. • Miguel asked if language barrier and translation was a theme during the San Pablo hearing or was it something new that came up. McCarl explained that during the hearing there was an actual translator who was translating for those in attendance. Staff stated there is a shortage with translators, same goes for the language line with the county. At this moment, there are wait times to get qualified translators on the line, which may take minutes to hours. • McCarl stated something else to keep an eye on are immigration services, translations, identification and other things that come with being new to the country. • Babb stated that it is bothersome for her that 211 is not giving out correct numbers to the public. Babb raised the point that no one would have known of any of these issues unless heard from the public directly. • Houston suggested there should be a way to connect with the people who attended the public hearings so that we can draw more interest from those who are facing challenges and what their needs are. • Piquero asked now that we have all this information, what is the follow up process? • Sparks stated St. Vincent de Paul wanted to schedule a meeting with the EOC and the clients as a follow up. • Reich stated that the intent of the public hearing was to hear from the public and gather information from the various venues throughout the county, distill the information received and make a determination on what the priorities should be. Reich stated she wanted to caution the group as it is a great thing to go back and follow up but to be very careful not to try to solve the problems that came out of the hearing, as it was not the function of the public hearings. • Merchant stated whatever the group chooses to share as a follow-up whether it is one or two things, it will give the board credibility.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babb stated she had noticed that most of the issues shared during the public hearings could be solved by doing the civic engagement piece of our work, such as, having a conversation with the Board of Supervisors, Cities throughout the county, Police departments, and any other particular groups to help solve some of the issues mentioned during the public hearings. • Reich stated based on what was given, the board now has to decide what the priority areas are so that staff could submit a Community Action Plan (CAP) by June 30th. Staff will then take those areas, go into the National Performance Indicators (NPI), and link the work to Community Action Plan, which will inform who we target. Reich explained that staff needs to know the priority areas so they can get started on writing out the CAP with the help of the Governance subcommittee. • Sparks explained the main themes that came up this year currently matched the four priority areas for 2018-2019. • Reich explained homelessness, mental health services; food (meat) and suicide prevention was mentioned often during the public hearings. Reich stated the Governance subcommittee is responsible for helping staff vet the content of the Community Action Plan. • Babb stated transportation does not fit in the four areas that was mentioned and going forward the group should be aware of those other issues. • Morales stated if we worked to improve the community and their mental health it will create more opportunities for bettering themselves and their families. • McCarl expressed that the issues are not small and that the EOC has a great opportunity to make an impact because of how well connected everyone is. This could start a social movement to impact issues as a community. • Reich stated staff would need to know what the priority areas would be. Once the Governance committee meet and discuss that, then the Community Action Plan will begin. • The Governance group agreed to schedule a meeting on May 17 from 10:30-11:30 am. • McCarl praised Sparks for her great facilitation work at the West County public hearing.
<p>Action: Discretionary contract/ budget</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sparks reported that the discretionary contract term runs from June 1, 2019- May 31, 2020. These funds were allocated to all Community Action Agencies statewide to enhance their programs. • Kaushal reported that the total discretionary contract is \$30,000 and that \$12,172.00 will go towards Staff salaries due to their recent promotions. • The group continued to discuss which subcontractors should be awarded additional funding that will make the biggest impact in the community. • Reich reminded the group that the board has agreed to a year-to-year funding basis so everything would be looked at through one-year worth of work by the Department of Community Services and Development. • Merchant reminded the group there was three agencies that scored high during the review of proposals and those were: Monument Crisis Center, Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa, and Opportunity Junction.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCarl stated she felt that the funding would make a greater impact if the funds were split between a couple organizations rather than twelve agencies. • Douglas pointed out that St. Vincent de Paul was short \$15,000 from their original asking amount and it would definitely help the organization if the group decided to fund the full \$15,000 to them. • Houston stated the group should look more towards the missions of the organization instead of the numbers so that it is even. • Kaushal recommended picking a subcontractor from each area in the county. • Staff reported on the scope of the work for each subcontractors and what programs Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) dollars are currently funding. <p>A motion to approve that the \$12,172 for staff salaries and give the remaining funds of \$17,828 to St. Vincent de Paul was made by McCarl and second by Douglas.</p> <p>The motion did not pass with EOC members voting as followed: Ayes: Miguel, Morales, Douglas, McCarl Nays: Houston, Almeida, Babb, Merchant, Piquero, Brown, Sewell Abstentions: Absent: Zeimer and Chenault</p> <p>A new motion to approve that the \$12,172 for staff salaries and split the remaining funds of \$17,828 equally between St. Vincent de Paul and Monument Crisis center was made by Piquero and second by Merchant.</p> <p>The motion passed with EOC members voting as followed: Ayes: Houston, Morales, Almeida, Piquero, Kaushal, Douglas, Merchant, McCarl Nays: Sewell Abstentions: Brown Absent: Zeimer and Chenault</p>
2020-2021Community Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sparks reported the Community Action Plan (CAP) is the road map for the EOC and needs to capture what the priority areas are for 2020-2021. Staff has already updated a couple areas in the CAP and will be adding more information after meeting with the Governance committee. • Sparks shared with the group the following information that has been updated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pg. 17- Staff will enter all subcontractors and what they are all currently doing with the CSBG funds. Information on the Request for Information and the current programs funded by CSBG.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pg. 18- Language and funding information ○ Pg. 21- Public hearing results, press release, surveys and the different methods used to ensure that the information reaches the public. ○ Describe how your agency will address the needs in the communities. ○ Describe how your agency provides emergency supplies and services to the community. ○ How we are monitoring our subcontractors as a board and agency. ● Staff will set up a Governance subcommittee meeting next week to go more in depth on the priority areas for 2020-2021.
<p>Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EOC Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Educational ● Fiscal- Actual ● CSB Staff ● EOC Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy council updates 	<p><u>EOC Chair</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this time. <p><u>Fiscal-Actual</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this time. <p><u>CSB Staff</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reich reminded the group that the Community Action Month presentation will be on May 21st with the Board of Supervisors. A Call to Action will be presented by Zeimer asking that the BOS put in writing that they are opposed to cutting CSBG funding. ● Reich also reported she would be attending an Opportunity Summit by RYSE. In addition, there was information about a housing summit sponsored by FESP and Ensuring Opportunity on June 3rd that was sent out to all the members by staff last week. ● Sparks updated the group on the Legislative visit during the California Community Action Partnership Association conference could only be attended by those who have registered. Sparks mentioned Merchant, Kaushal and Tupou would visit with Legislator Director, Roy Sianez and Policy Analyst, Zack Leary. CalCAPA would be sending talking points as well as a California Infosheet for them to use during the visit. <p><u>Policy Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this time. <p><u>EOC Members</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this time
<p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planning Calendar 	<p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff will send out Governance email and packet. ● Staff will send out the entire Community Assessment to all the members. ● Staff will send out information from Kaushal about First Five.
<p>Evaluate the Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None