



Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) Business Meeting Minutes

Location: Zoom Call



Date: 6/10/2021 **Time Convened:** 6:01 pm **Time Terminated:** 7:50 pm **Recorder:** Mele Tupou/Nancy Sparks

Conference Call attendees: Renee Zeimer, Monisha Merchant, Devlyn Sewell, Ajit Kaushal, Sam Houston, Tricia Piquero, Desire Medlen, Lauren Babb, Mandy Nelson, Brendan Foley

Absentees: Noe Gudino (excused)

Staff: Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Christina Reich, Amanda Cleveland, Nancy Sparks, Mele Tupou

Quorum: Yes

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY
Review desired outcomes and ground rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zeimer called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Alarcon-Bowen read the desired outcomes.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None Present
Introduction and formal welcome of CSB Director Aaron Alarcon-Bowen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reich introduced the new Community Services Bureau Executive Director- Aaron Alarcon-Bowen. Reich explained he was a director for the Public Authority in Marin County. Reich continued to explain Alarcon-Bowen has a load of experience especially with working with the low-income community. Alarcon-Bowen gave the group a quick background of his experiences. He stated he is very thrilled to work with the board and would love to hear from the group if they have any questions for him.
<p>Action: May 13, 2021 EOC Business Meeting minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group reviewed the draft May 13th 2021 Business meeting minutes with the following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bullet three, page 6- "AB" needs to be changed to "SB" Grammatical edits that would be sent over to staff to correct <p>A motion to approve the May 13th 2021 Business meeting minutes with changes stated above was made by Kaushal and seconded by Houston.</p> <p>Ayes: Houston, Sewell, Medlen, Merchant, Babb, Foley Kaushal, Piquero, Zeimer, Nelson Nays: Abstentions:</p>

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY
	Absent: Gudino
<p>Presentation, Discussion, Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Action Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community Assessment -Public Hearings / Roundtable Debrief ➤ -Priority Areas 	<p>Community Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reich shared that staff has been collecting data from the four public hearings, Roundtable and additionally from the Community Assessment. • Reich reminded the group with all this data, this would help the group decide the priority areas for the next two years to spend the CSBG funding and ameliorate poverty in the Contract Costa County. • Reich introduced Amanda Cleveland who is the new Administrative Services Assistant III (ASA III) that would be conducting the presentation. • Cleveland shared with the group a synopsis of the Community Assessment explaining the needs of the community and the gaps in services. • The power point explained data about children and families who are homeless, in foster homes, child development programs, education, health nutrition, eligibility and geographic information of these children. • With this data, the information will help guide the Community Services Bureau on how to serve these families. • The data may be geared towards Head Start and Early Head Start but the information is for all Community Services Bureau programs. • Alarcon-Bowen asked Cleveland for more information on what caused the Median Family Income to increase. Cleveland will look into the reason it was increased and report back. • Medlen explained she read that some areas in the county capped at a certain income level which could of caused a change in the median. • Cleveland stated that some parts of the population needs our help now more than ever and thanked the group for their time. • Merchant shared that the group held virtual Public Hearings this year with feedback from the community and their immediate needs. • Reich explained she noticed that the current priority areas for 2019 (Housing & Shelter; Training & Employment; Nutrition & Food Insecurity; Healthcare & Health Access) are still needs in the community now based on the public hearings. • Reich explained there was a strong theme for Mental Health services, Rental Assistance and utility along with jobs. • Reich explained there is a priority table in the 2022- 2023 Community Action Plan that the group must take action on. • The group agreed to get the Outreach Committee together to add an overarching statement to align with the priority areas.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foley asked if prioritizing the areas is needed or makes a difference. Reich explained prioritizing the areas drives the Request for Information process we have every year. It rates the importance of each need. • The members voiced their opinions on mental health, better foods for children, housing assistance and jobs. • After much deliberation the group agreed to move forward with the following priority areas: <p><u>2022-2023 Priority Areas:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing & Shelter 2. Healthy Food 3. Mental Health Access 4. Training for Living Wage Jobs <p>A motion to approve the 2022-2023 Priority Areas stated above was made by Piquero and seconded by Sewell.</p> <p>Ayes: Houston, Sewell, Medlen, Merchant, Babb, Foley Kaushal, Piquero, Zeimer, Nelson Nays: Abstentions: Absent: Gudino</p>
<p>Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EOC Chair</u> • <u>CSB Staff</u> • <u>Fiscal</u> • <u>EOC Members</u> 	<p><u>EOC Chair:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zeimer updated the group about the letters of support that the full board approved at the last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AB 14- Internet For All- Passed, moving forward ○ AB 32- Telehealth- Expanding Healthcare Accessibility- Passed , moving forward ○ AB 988- Mental Health Crisis Lifeline- Passed, moving forward ○ SB 222-Water Rate Assistance- Passed, moving forward ○ SB 223- Prohibits Discontinuation of Residential Water- Currently stalled in the Senate committee. Zeimer will ask Kaushal to give an update at the next meeting. • Zeimer recognized Piquero and Babb whose terms end June 30. Zeimer thanked both members for the impact they have made on the board and the community. • Babb thanked everyone and stated she learned many things about being on a commission board. She wished everyone well. • Piquero thanked the board for all their support and help throughout the three years she has been here. <p><u>CSB Staff:</u> <u>N/A</u></p> <p><u>Fiscal:</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reich reported the CSBG 2020-2021 contract # 20F-3007 and that we are 94% expended with everything being accounted for. The closeout will be reported as 100% expended. • Reich reported the CSBG Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CAREs) contract that runs from March 2020- May 2022. Reich reminded the group there are three agencies who were awarded Water Relief funds. • Reich explained there are three CAREs contracts that still needs to be executed, so expenditures will come in with the next report based on contracts that have been approved. At this time, only 6% expended. • Reich reported the CSBG 2021-2022 contract #20F-4007 does not show much expenditures here as only five contracts have gone through and only 10% expended.
Next Steps:	<p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will schedule an Outreach Subcommittee meeting to discuss the Overarching statement for the Community Action Plan. • Staff will follow up with Cleveland about the Median Income increase and more data, which will be sent out to the members. • The group agreed to take off the month of July and will continue business meetings in August. <p>A motion to approve no business meeting in July and continue EOC business meetings in August made by Merchant and seconded by Foley.</p> <p>Ayes: Houston, Sewell, Medlen, Merchant, Babb, Foley, Kaushal, Piquero, Zeimer, People-Stokes Nays: Abstentions: Absent: Gudino, Nelson*</p> <p><i>*Left before this action item</i></p>
Evaluate the Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yay! • Thumbs up • Welcome Aaron!