



Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

January 19, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Human Welfare and Community Action Commission
 Submitted by: Samuel Kohn, Chairperson, Human Welfare and Community Action Commission
 Subject: Filling Vacancies Among the Elected Representatives of the Poor

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution confirming the appointments of Ms. Denah Bookstein (District 1); and Mr. Carlos Hill (District 1) as elected representatives of the poor on the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC), having been voted onto the Commission at the HWCAC December 9, 2020 meeting, and that their terms expire December 9, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Failure to maintain full membership on the HWCAC, which also acts as the Board of the Berkeley Community Action Agency (CAA), could result in a loss of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. Vacancies on the Berkeley CAA Board were noted as a “finding” during the most recent desk review of this program conducted by the State Department of Community Services and Development.

BACKGROUND

The HWCAC is made up of fifteen members, nine of whom are appointed by Berkeley City Council members and six of whom are elected representatives of the poor. Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.78.080 stipulates that elections of representatives of the poor are held biennially in the month of November in even numbered years. The next election will take place in November 2022. Subsection C of the code states, “...the remaining representatives of the poor...shall select a person to fill the vacancy until the next election...” and that the, “...name of the selected representatives shall be submitted to the City Council for confirmation.” BMC 3.78.030 (b) also states in part, that the remaining elected commission members shall recommend to the Council that the newly elected person fill out the term of the appointment.

There was only one elected representative of the poor at the meeting; therefore, the elected representative of the poor and the remaining commissioners voted (Roll Call

Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Behm-Steinberg, Kohn, Omodele, Sim, Romo; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent: Smith) to select Ms. Bookstein to fill one of the current vacancies;

and voted (Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Dunner, Sood, Behm-Steinberg, Kohn, Omodele, Sim, Romo; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent: Smith) to select Mr. Hill to fill one of the current vacancies.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no known environmental impacts associated with the recommendation of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Failure to maintain full membership on the HWCAC could threaten future CSBG funding.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position on the recommendation but supports maintaining full commission membership.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, Secretary, HHCS, (510) 981-5414

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONFIRMING THAT MS. DENAH BOOKSTEIN AND MR. CARLOS HILL, MAY FILL TWO VACANCIES AMONG THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POOR ON THE HUMAN WELFARE AND COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION (HWCAC), HAVING BEEN SELECTED AT THE HWCAC DECEMBER 9, 2020 MEETING

WHEREAS, Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.78.080 stipulates that election of representatives of the poor are held biennially in the month of November in even numbered years, and the next election will take place in November 2022; and

WHEREAS, Subsection C states "...the remaining representatives of the poor...shall select a person to fill the vacancy until the next election..." and that the "...name of the selected representatives shall be submitted to the City Council for confirmation"; and

WHEREAS, at the December 9, 2020 HWCAC regular meeting, the Commission elected Ms. Denah Bookstein (District 1) by unanimous roll-call vote to fill one vacancy with her term ending December 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, at the December 9, 2020 HWCAC regular meeting, the Commission elected Mr. Carlos Hill (District 1) by unanimous roll-call vote to fill one vacancy with his term ending December 9, 2022; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Berkeley that Ms. Denah Bookstein (District 1); and Mr. Carlos Hill (District 1); are confirmed as elected representatives of the poor serving on the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission until December 9, 2022.

