

Berkeley Homeless Commission

Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2005

Present: Ken Moshesh, Kokavulu Lumukanda, Paula Hollowell, Annmarie Heineman, Tom Reed, Belinda Lyons, Jessica Sedley
Absent: Salvador Menjivar
Staff Present: Jane Micallef

Quorum reached at 7:00.

Public Comment:
None.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved for meeting of June 8, 2005. (M/S/C Moshesh; Heineman. AYES: Moshesh, Lumukanda, Hollowell, Heineman, Reed, Lyons. ABSTENTIONS: Sedley. ABSENT: Menjivar, Hollowell)

ACTION TAKEN:

1. Homeless Services General Fund Budget

M/S/C to accept the proposed budget allocation and to thank the Mayor and Council for prioritizing homeless programs and adding additional funding. (Moshesh; Heineman. AYES: Moshesh, Lumukanda, Heineman, Reed, Sedley, Lyons. ABSENT: Menjivar, Hollowell)

Discussion: The commission discussed the fact that the funding Council had restored was all slated for programs that they support increased funding for. Had they been given the opportunity to allocate the funds, they may have made other choices but they do not want to stall the process of entering into contracts with community agencies and, therefore, are willing to go along with Council's amended budget. As for the two agencies recommended for possible funding restoration at mid-year budget review—LLM's Acupuncture Detox Clinic and the Berkeley Drop-In Center, the Commission supports restored funding.

2. City Council Referral—Homeless Assistance Program for Impounded Vehicles

M/S/C The City Council should commit to establishing permanent housing for the homeless as its first priority and allocating funding for solutions to homelessness. However, the loss of a vehicle is a serious issue for homeless people and the City should make efforts to address this issue through no-cost strategies including:

- ❖ Establishing a legal place for homeless people to park;
- ❖ Waiving time limits for working off fines through the performance of community service; and
- ❖ Establishing a mechanism to prevent unpaid fines from compounding.

(M/S/C Moshesh; Sedley. AYES: Moshesh, Heineman, Reed, Sedley, Lyons. NOES: Lumukanda.
ABSENT: Menjivar, Hollowell)

Discussion: The commission considered this issue at this meeting and their meeting of June 8, 2005. While commissioners strongly agree that loss of property, including vehicle impoundment, is a huge concern for the homeless community, the Commission believes that the City should not create a program that simply provides emergency assistance to recover impounded vehicles but does not address the underlying issues. A person assisted through such a program may find themselves in the same predicament several months later.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION:

1. Commission Workplan

The Commission should consider coordinating its workplan with the Alameda Countywide Special Needs and Homeless Housing Plan which will soon be released. Commission will hear presentation from Jane in September about the Plan. The Commission should also consider the mechanism through which to ensure that the City will receive more proposals for permanent supportive housing for homeless people and to create a set aside to fund its creation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Attachment 2

RESOLUTION NO. 62,520-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO LIMIT THE COMMUNITY SERVICE ALTERNATIVE AS A WAY TO SATISFY PARKING CITATION FEES

WHEREAS, the current Community Service option results in over \$200,000 in lost revenue annually and requires City staff to maintain the program; and

WHEREAS, only 38% of the participants have registered their vehicle to a Berkeley address; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Marina, which is the largest recipient of volunteer hours will be able to absorb the work, primarily emptying trashcans at the Marina, with the reduction of the program.

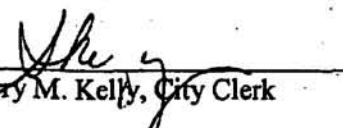
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to limit the Community Service program as a way to satisfy parking citations to Berkeley registered vehicle owners who qualify as low income, and allow a maximum of 5 citations within the original bail amount period to be satisfied by the registered owner through Community Service annually.

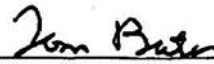
The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on June 8, 2004 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Breland, Hawley, Maio, Olds, Shirek, Spring, Worthington, Wozniak and Mayor Bates.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Attest: 
Sherry M. Kelly, City Clerk


Tom Bates, Mayor