



Mental Health Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 14, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Mental Health Commission

Submitted by: Carol Patterson, Secretary, Mental Health Commission

Subject: Appointment to the Mental Health Commission

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution appointing Luvenia Jones to the Mental Health Commission, as a representative of the Special Interest Category, for a three-year term beginning November 15, 2006 and ending November 14, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Mental Health Commission is composed of 17 members, however, there are presently six vacancies on the Commission. These vacancies impede the Commission's ability to adequately review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, resources, and programs.

BACKGROUND

State law requires that appointments to the Mental Health Commission meet specific categories. The General Public Interest category may include anyone who has an interest in and some knowledge of mental health services. The Special Public Interest category includes direct consumers of public mental health services or family members of consumers, who together must constitute at least fifty percent or nine of the Commission seats. Direct consumers and family members shall each constitute at least 20% of the commission membership. Two members must be residents of the City of Albany with at least one of these seats filled by a direct consumer or family member.

Mental Health Commission members may, by State law, serve no more than nine consecutive years.

At its October 12, 2006 meeting, the Mental Health Commission passed the following motion:

M/S/C (*Taggart, Smith*) to recommend that the City Council appoint Luvenia Jones to the Mental Health Commission in a special interest category slot. **Ayes:** Unanimous
Absent: Greshner.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the recommended action will allow the Mental Health Commission to move one step closer to having a full and diverse complement of commissioners to review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, resources, and programs.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.

CONTACT PERSON

Michael Diehl, Chairperson, Mental Health Commission, (510) 472-6192
Carol Patterson, Secretary, Mental Health Commission, (510) 981-5217

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

APPOINTING LUVENIA JONES TO THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

WHEREAS, membership on the Mental Health Commission is composed of seventeen with appointment by Council as a whole: one Mayor (or designee), nine special public interest, two residents of Albany (one of which shall be representative of special public interest), and six general public interest; and

WHEREAS, with the appointment approved by the City Council on October 24, 2006, the total membership of the Mental Health Commission includes: seven Special Interest members, two Berkeley General Interest members, one member representing Berkeley's Mayor, and one Albany General Interest member; and

WHEREAS, with Mental Health Services Act implementation in its beginning stages, the City of Berkeley will need a Mental Health Commission with a full and diverse complement of commissioners to address the many important tasks ahead; and

WHEREAS, at its October 12, 2006 meeting, the Mental Health Commission unanimously recommended that Luvenia Jones be appointed to the Mental Health Commission.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley appoints Luvenia Jones, Special Interest Category, to the Mental Health Commission for a three-year term beginning November 15, 2006 and ending November 14, 2009.