



Contra Costa County Economic Opportunity Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Economic Opportunity Council General Meeting
Location: 40 Douglas Drive, Martinez



Date: 5-13-2010 Time Convened: 6:08 pm Time Terminated: 7:18 pm Recorder: Michelle Cooper

- Attendees: Fred Jackson (Vice-Chair), Ed Lerman, Caylin Patterson, Michelle Cooper, Mary Withers, Katherine Punsalang, Domingo Delgadillo, James Sullivan, Kathy Jones, Jerome La Torre, Lydia Ned-Jones, Geoffrey Payton

Absent: Tracy Fraas, Florence Weiss, John Jewell, Delphine Smith, Deborah Polk

TOPIC	RECOMMENDATION / SUMMARY
Review Desired Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fred reviewed the desired outcomes and ground rules.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geoffrey Payton, a member of the public, introduced himself. For the last 10 years, he's been working for a non-profit named Radiant Relationships; a relationship enhancement program. His purpose for attending tonight's meeting was to get a scope of what the EOC is about and possibly apply for membership.
Approval of March's Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> James motioned to approve the minutes. Kathy second the motion to approve.
Chairperson's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Vice Chairperson's Report	<p><u>Insights on the Cal/Neva Conference:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conference was one of the best that Fred has attended thus far. Fred was impressed with the media piece. He learned about how community organizations can partner with the media to enhance outreach to the community. More specifically, CBS Channel 5 (KPIX) has a publicity program in which they adopt a community action program and work with the organization from start to finish. <p><u>EOC's Future in Advocacy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fred solicited feedback from the group with respect to the future of advocacy per the EOC.

Contra Costa County Economic Opportunity Meeting Minutes

Fred would like to fully extend the powers of the Council through advocacy. Fred posed the following questions: “How much advocating should we do? Should we take on strong issues? Should we put ourselves on the line?” EOC members provided passionate feedback:

- Kathy agreed with Fred’s advocacy piece and stressed that the EOC should get involved with prisoner re-entry initiatives. She has been attending the re-entry planning committee meetings and she commented on the status of the committee. Moreover, Kathy announced that the re-entry committee is attempting to create a collaboration of established non-profits as opposed to creating new agencies. The EOC should be proactive in letting the community know that the EOC is available.
 - On another note, Kathy feels like we should do more advertising. Michelle noted that the EOC has an ad on public access television. Caylin responded that Community Action in the process of creating advertising materials such as a newsletter that will be distributed in the near future.
 - Kathy also proposed that EOC members fuse their interests with the mandates of the EOC; sitting on other committees, yet representing the EOC.
- Jerome expressed that he thought he would be doing more advocacy as an EOC member. He too agreed with Fred’s advocacy piece and added that the EOC’s involvement in advocacy is of urgency in today’s impecunious times. He noted that the governor is doing a May revise which will include more cuts. He feels that we should take a stand for the people of Contra Costa County.
- Katherine mentioned that we should be instruments; publicizing resources that are available to the community.
 - Jerome expressed that the EOC should do more to publicize our meetings, and that we should continuously have members of the public in attendance.
- Our member of the public, Geoffrey, asked was this was the first time that the EOC has engaged in advocacy?
 - Fred responded that due to the times, advocacy is now a priority; it’s time to “re-calibrate our mission”.
 - Ed further explained that is the historical context of the EOC to engage in advocacy.

Contra Costa County Economic Opportunity Meeting Minutes

Staff Reports

- Kathy later mentioned that the Reinvestment dollars will be added to CCC and that the EOC needs to be prepared to collect those funds, when the money arrives.
- Fred went on to discuss Education Advocacy – Culturally Competent Education.
 - He would like to have a historical retrofit of information about history and humanity. He has spoken with the Board of Education and he is going to go forward with requesting that the contributions of other ethnicities be added to curriculums. Fred is excited to use what he learned at the conference because it will aid his efforts.
- May is Community Action Month. The Community Action team will be share information about Community Action and ask for input from the community about Community Action’s future. We will also handout the flier included in the packet.
- The Calendar of Events highlights EOC events and other events happening in our community.
- Community Action will also present in front of the BOS and Tracy will speak about the EOC. The BOS will present Community Action with a proclamation acknowledging Community Action Month.
- Caylin, along with Sonoma County Community Action, will also be presenting at the Richmond Children Foundation’s Children & Youth Summit. She will present the idea of working collaboratively & creating a continuum of services as opposed to organizations operating in silos.
 - Michelle will email EOC members more information about that event.
- The weatherization reports (Fast Track & HEAP) were discussed. Both contracts, Fast Track & HEAP, are for 18 months and will end in July 2010.
 - 4642 Fast Track applications have been processed
 - 2978 HEAP applications have been processed.
- The CSBG & CSBG ARRA Budgets were reported. As requested by Domingo during the last meeting, both expenditure reports give a summarized itemization on how the subcontractors have encumbered funds.
 - Some numbers may not be displayed until the summer, as some of the subcontractors have seasonal programs.

Contra Costa County Economic Opportunity Meeting Minutes

Delegate Reports

- None

Member Updates

- Jerome shared information about Treasure Box – an organization that provides a week worth of food for a family of 4 for \$30 per box. There are opportunities for people to open their own locations. He distributed an information packet that Michelle will email to the group.
- Domingo completed his site monitoring visit at Calli House. They are still in the process of completing the new building. Calli House has comprehensive services. They work with about 18 youth and a transition program in which they help people get established. Domingo was very impressed by the fact that they operate on a small budget. They help youth with basic skills. The program is limited in resources. He was impressed and will submit his report soon.
- Kathy shared that she and Jerome are working on the new Site Monitoring Visit report. The new report will be qualitative and quantitative.

Finance

- We will table this discussion until the next meeting.

Sub-Committee

EOC Brainstorm Session

- It was confirmed that EOC Members will submit the questionnaire included in the meeting packet during the next meeting.
- The EOC began discussing the questionnaire in small groups during a breakout session for the duration of the meeting.

Adjournment

- Adjourned at 7:18