

ANN LAND AND BERTHA HENSCHER MEMORIAL FUNDS COMMISSION
APRIL 12, 1997 RETREAT
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Esther Lujan at 9:25 a.m. Present were Commissioners Doris Chandler, Leonard Williams, Mona Mansfield, Valerie Reynoso and newly-appointed Commissioner Alexander Vasquez. Commission Liaison Careen Ezell was also present. ABSENT: *Esther Greene*

Each Commissioner was introduced, and shared their respective career and community activities background. Commissioner Vasquez noted the myriad job opportunities for entry level positions with his company, Motel 6 Corporation, where he serves as manager of buildings and grounds for Northern California. He shared the concerns of Motel 6 on the lack of candidates to fill these positions. Commissioners Mansfield and Williams expressed an interest in pursuing this issue further by working with nonprofit organizations and referring candidates to Commissioner Vasquez. These positions pay an average of \$5.50 per hour.

Commissioner Williams noted that the Mutual Assistance Agency offers transportation for its clients to job interviews.

Commissioners Williams and Vasquez stressed that transportation is a major barrier for the homeless in finding employment.

It was noted that Commissioner and former President Gail Mancarti has resigned, effective with the last Commission meeting.

Commission Goals

Commissioner Lujan recommended that we leave the duties of the Commissioners as they currently stand.

Commissioner Mansfield said that the Commission needs to note in the job duty statement for commissioners that there are other obligations to these positions besides attending Commission meetings e.g., bidders conference, offsite.

The consensus reached was that more interest needs to be generated on Commission vacancies, to prompt a greater pool of candidates.

In regards to the stipend offered to Commissioners for meetings, Commissioner Mansfield does not feel that an offsite should be deemed an official meeting.

Commissioner Lujan believes that today's meeting is an official one.

The consensus reached was that the first four meetings of the year are official meetings, and will be compensated as such.

The current mission of the Commission will remain unchanged, by consensus.

Grant Process

A number of comments were made about the applications packet. Commissioner Mansfield was appointed chairman of a committee to review this packet, and Commissioner Reynoso was asked to assist her. Commissioner Lujan requested that Commissioner Mansfield prepare examples of wage funding that would be appropriate for the bidders conference, and that Commissioners Mansfield and Reynoso meet after the May meeting, but before August.

Commissioner Chandler requested that the last sentence of Section Three of the Applications Packet, paragraph three, "1997 Funding Priorities," be stricken. The sentence calls attention to Supercupboard classes, and a number of Commissioners felt that calling attention to this one program was inappropriate. The Commissioners agreed to remove it.

Commissioner Lujan asked Ms. Ezell if she found the tally time suitable for her needs at the bidders conference, and if 30 extra minutes for her responsibilities would be helpful. Ms. Ezell said that she would welcome the extra time. The Commission agreed to extend the extra time to Ms. Ezell at the next bidder's meeting.

Project/Recipient Oversight

The consensus reached in regards to the site visit questionnaire is that it should serve as a guideline tool.

Commissioners picked Agency names at random for site visits in either June or July. Those Commissioners drawing names of agencies that have drawn in past years were traded with others. The following assignments were made:

Commissioner Williams: Centro Guadalupe, Francis House, Episcopal Services

Commissioner Chandler -- Mustard Seed, South Sacramento Interfaith

Commissioner Lujan -- Stanford Home, Grace Day Home

Commissioner Reynoso -- Mutual Assistance, TLC Soup Kitchen

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Commissioner Mansfield -- YWCA, Salvation Army

Commissioner Vasquez -- Lutheran Social Services, Sacramento Food Bank, St. John's Shelter for Women

Commissioner Greene -- Travelers Aid Sacramento Area Emergency Housing

Ms. Ezell offered the financial statements for review for any of the above-mentioned agencies.

Closure

Commissioner Lujan adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m.