



# MINUTES



## Alameda County Oakland Community Action Partnership (AC-OCAP)

Visit us on the web at [AC-OCAP.com](http://AC-OCAP.com) or contact us by email at [AC-OCAP@oaklandnet.com](mailto:AC-OCAP@oaklandnet.com)

**Vision Statement:** To end poverty within the City of Oakland and throughout Alameda County

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### Advocacy Committee Meeting (Standing)

Wednesday, September 7, 2016 @ 5:30pm-6:30pm  
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room #1

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**Committee Members Present:** Stanley Richardson (Chair), Lisa Ruhland, Max Chacana, and Nayaa Lacy

**Excused:** Theresa Anderson

**Staff Present:** Cecilia Garcia, Dwight Williams, and Emily Derenthal

**Guest:** Phuong Hang Duong Thi and Angelica Gums

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### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

S. Richardson called the meeting to order at 5:43p.m. Roll call was called by staff, C. Garcia. A quorum was established.

### 2. Review of May 4, 2016 Advocacy Committee Minutes

### 3. AC-OCAP Advocacy – Focus Area/Strategy

#### - General (Approved by Board)

- a) Transportation – S. Richardson
- b) Employment
- c) Housing – N. Lacy
- d) Seniors
- e) Food Policy

#### -Principal Focuses

- a) Family Day - Free Admission for Low Income Children to Oakland Zoo, Chabot Space Center, and other City Sponsored Facilities
- b) Seniors
- c) End Hunger 20/20 – D. Brown
- d) Low income Special Tax Exemptions – A. Gums
- e) Letter Writing Campaign

#### - Pending Projects

- a) letters
- b) Advocacy Plan Development: activities and communications requesting adoption of a policy granting exemptions to low-income homeowners from special assessment taxes.

S. Richardson asked the committee members if they have any interest in being the lead of one of the general focus areas. Guest, A. Gums stated that she would like to be back on the Advocacy Committee. Staff recommended that she speak to the board chair, G. Green.

- a) Transportation: S. Richardson stated that for transportation, the ongoing topic was the rapid transit bus.
- b) Employment: S. Richardson stated that there was discussion on the advocacy committee on increasing the minimum wage which has happened in the City of Oakland. S. Richardson stated he will continue to follow this topic and bring updates to the committee. He stated that he attended the CAP Annual conference in Texas and the primary discussions were minimum wage and economic conditions. He continued on to state that the advocacy committee does not expend grant funds and if the committee would like to advocate on a topic/cause, the committee would need the full board approval.
- c) Housing: N. Lacy expressed her interest in this general topic, housing. A discussion ensued on property taxes and other taxes that low-moderate income individuals may qualify for. A discussion also ensued on the housing bond measure which is proposing a tax to build more low-moderate income housing. The bond is for \$580million.
- d) Seniors: No report



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- e) Food Policy: No report
- a) Family Day – L. Ruhland, A. Gums, and N. Lacy all stated that they would be the leads on this topic.
- b) Seniors – See item d for Senior Report if any
- c) End Hunger 20/20 – No Report
- d) Low income Special Tax Exemptions –A discussion ensued on the utility tax. There were suggestions that there should be a handout given to the tax preparers at the WITC sites with a list of special tax exemptions people may qualify for. S. Richardson, A. Gums, and L. Ruhland stated they would work on this topic.
- e) Letter Writing Campaign – The committee discussed the \$100,000 Alameda County ASK letter and decided to put this item on hold.

**Action:** Create a brochure/pamphlet listing all the current grantees and their information.

**Action:** S. Richardson to send the committee the list of tax exemptions.

#### 4. Effects of November Ballot Measures on low and moderate income families.

#### 5. Review of member interests and activity assignments

This topic was discussed throughout the meeting.

#### 6. Future Meeting Schedule

#### 7. Agenda Attachments

- 2. Advocacy Committee Minutes May 4, 2016
- 3a. Letters

#### 8. Future/Proposed Agenda Items:

Future:

#### 9. Announcements

#### 10. Open Forum

#### 11. Adjournment

**Motion:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:41p.m. M/S/Carried: L. Ruhland/M. Chacana/Unanimous.  
Motion Carried.