BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL HEALTH, LIFE ENRICHMENT, EQUITY & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 19, 2025
3:45 PM

Cypress Room - 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
Committee Members:

Councilmembers Ben Bartlett, Igor Tregub, and Shoshana O'Keefe
Alternate: Councilmember Terry Taplin

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person attendance and virtual participation. All Committee meetings are recorded.

Use this URL https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1618229815 to access the meeting remotely. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" function in Zoom. To join by phone: Dial **1-669-254-5252 or 1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)** and Enter **Meeting ID: 161 822 9815.** To provide public comment, press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit a written communication for the Committee's consideration and inclusion in the public record, email policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting, however, if you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person.

Pursuant to the City Council Rules of Procedure and State Law, the presiding officer may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Prior to removing an individual, the presiding officer shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding officer may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. "Disrupting" means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, a failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body, or engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

California Government Code Section 84308 (Levine Act) Parties to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use are required to disclose if they made contributions over $500 within the prior 12 months to any City employee or officer. Parties and participants with a financial interest are prohibited from making more than $500 in contributions to a decisionmaker for the 12 months after the final decision is rendered on the proceeding. The above contribution disclosures and restrictions do not apply when the proceeding is competitively bid, or involves a personnel or labor contract. For more information, see Government Code Section 84308.

MINUTES

Roll Call: 3:46 p.m.

Present: Bartlett, Tregub, O'Keefe

Absent: None

Election of Chairperson
Action: M/S/C (Bartlett/O'Keefe) to elect Councilmember Tregub as Chairperson of the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Committee.
Vote: All Ayes.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters: 1 speaker

Minutes for Approval

Draft minutes for the Committee's consideration and approval.

1. **Minutes - July 29, 2024**
   Action: M/S/C (O'Keefe/Bartlett) to approve the July 29, 2024 minutes.
   Vote: All Ayes.

Committee Action Items

The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. The Chair will determine the number of persons interested in speaking on each item. Up to ten (10) speakers may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Chair may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker.

Following review and discussion of the items listed below, the Committee may continue an item to a future committee meeting, or refer the item to the City Council.

2. **Small Business Support Act**
   From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author)
   Recommendation: That the City Manager and Finance Department amend the City of Berkeley business license process and requirements to promote transparency between the City and small business owners and lower burdensome barriers to entry for new business owners. Such amendments shall include the following:
   1. Establish a business license amnesty program
   2. Establish a Small Business Support and Retention Emergency Grant
   3. Create a Small Business Ombudsman
   4. Promote greater transparency about the business licensing process.
   These actions will support small business creation and retention. The close relationship between the people of Berkeley, our small businesses, and the City is essential to making our community thrive.
   Financial Implications: See Report
   Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130
   Action: Item continued to a future meeting

Committee Action Items

3.   Discussion Item: Impact Bond
   From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author)
   Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130
   Action: Item continued to a future meeting

Unscheduled Items

These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Committee may schedule these items to the Action Calendar of a future Committee meeting.

Items for Future Agendas

- **Discussion Item: Sutter Health East Bay Expansion**
- **Discussion Item: Specialized Care Unit**
- **Discussion Item: Mental Health Services in Berkeley**

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Tregub/Bartlett) to adjourn the meeting
Vote: All Ayes.

Adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity, & Community Committee meeting held on March 19, 2025.

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Wendy Sorensen, Assistant City Clerk

Communications

Communications submitted to City Council Policy Committees are on file in the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA, and are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6908 or policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov.