

SEIU LOCAL 521
SOCIAL ECONOMIC JUSTICE (SEJ) COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 9, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: the meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chair Alysia Bonner.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chair Bonner extended a welcome to all of those in attendance. Sign-in sheets in Fresno and San Jose are available for review of those participating.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Gwen Harshaw made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Darlynn Qualls. No discussion. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented.

OPEN FORUM:

KAPA Donation: Ethel Jackson stated that the donation made to KAPA was received but it was the \$150 rather than the approved \$500. Chair Bonner stated she would look into the situation so that it may be remedied.

SEJ Structure: Lorenzo Lambaren brought up the subject of a co-chair being appointment for SEJ Committee. He stated that the by-laws do not call for a co-chair of SEJ and it would appear that the structure would be changed by doing so. He also stated that having a SEJ co-chair was not addressed at SEJ meeting and is not allowing for transparency. Mariam Alvarez stated that this is not taking away from Present Harshaw's authority but asking for clarification as to where the authority to appoint a co-chair is allowed. Local Wide President Gwen Harshaw stated that she has the right, per the by-laws, to appoint committee chairs. She also stated that he can take it to the Executive Board meeting on Saturday, June 25, 2016 for further clarification

ALL Caucus Summit: Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham reported the summit will be held the second Saturday in October, 2016. An inventory will be done of all of the t-shirts and incentives still available.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Lorenzo Lambaren reported that as of March 31, 2016 there was \$6,510 with no outstanding authorizations.

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGETED ITEM(S): none for May, 2016

NEW BUSINESS

DONATION REQUEST(S): tutoring supplies expense request for a monetary donation to assist with expenses involved in a tutoring program for children in grades K-12 by Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham on behalf of Gavin Simmons had been tabled at the March 14, 2016 meeting pending obtaining additional information. Information has not been received. Tabled until June 13, 2016 meeting.

CAUCUS REPORTS:

AFRAM

Santa Clara/San Mateo: no report

Fresno: Juneteenth Celebration will be June 4, 2016 in Fresno from 11:00 A.M. -3:00P.M. in Unity Hall, Fresno office.

APALA

Santa Clara/San Mateo: election of new officers. Myrna Bravo reported at the last meeting 10 new members sign up.

Fresno: the Asian Heritage Month event was held with approximately 126 people in attendance. The Native American Indian Veteran's Association provided a color guard for the event. Assemblyman Joaquin Arambula attended as well as members of the Hmong Law Enforcement Association. Two scholarships in the amount of \$500 each, were presented. The scholarships are funded by money raised by APALA – Fresno at different fund raisers.

LATINO

Santa Clara/San Mateo: Rachel Subega reported that at the César Chavez celebration Cesar's younger brother and daughter participated. She stated there were displays Honoring César's life, folkloric dancers, singers and food. She also stated that the caucus Will be participating in the May Day parade May 1, 2016.

Fresno: Lorenzo Lambaren reported that the caucus continues to be involved in voter Registration and immigration reform. Plans are in the works for Hispanic Heritage Month Observance in September, 2016.

LAVENDER

Baltimore Gónzales reported that reorganization efforts are currently under way for the Caucus, increasing membership and getting people excited. Baltimore stated that On May 21, 2016 her will be participating in the N.A.M.I. walk in Fresno. He also reported June is Gay Pride Month.

WOMEN'S:

Jennifer reported that Women's Caucus just completed their annual Diaper Drive for Holy Cross Women's Shelter. Events honoring Women's Equality Day are in the works August, 2016. She also reported that women's Caucus is in the process of updating its by-laws.

NATIVE AMERICAN: Alex Betancourt thanked all of the different caucuses who made a donation to the Native American Indian Veterans Association towards the purchase of a tee-pee.

PWD: inactive.

ADJOURNMENT: Jennifer Jensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 P.M. Seconded by Alex Betancourt. No discussion. Vote taken. Meeting adjourned at 7:12P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Jensen
SEJ - Secretary