

SEIU LOCAL 521  
SOCIAL ECONOMIC JUSTICE (SEJ) COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: the meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M. by Chair Alysia Bonner

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: welcome was extended to all attending in Fresno, San Jose and by phone.

Fresno: Alysia Bonner, Jennifer Jensen, Sergio Garcia, Raquel Garcia (honorary member). Maria Luisa Gutierrez (honorary member), Alondra Quintero (honorary member), Bella Barela, Solomon Barela (guests), Francis Coronado, Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham, Jerry Hunsucker (guest) and Jim Avalos (guest)

San Jose: Rachel Subega, Karen Nakatani, Carmella DiSopa and Marilyn Mara.

Phone: Marilyn DeRoeun.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: tabled to next meeting. The minutes for January, 2018, February, 2018 and March, 2018 have been submitted and approved. It was suggested that the minutes be sent to the Caucus Chairs' personal e-mail. The consensus was that this would be a good idea.

OPEN FORUM:

Central Labor Council (FMTK): Chair Bonner shared that there will be a 2018 Voter Engagement Volunteer Kick Off on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 9:00A.M. The purpose of the event is to help educate voters about local elections. The event will be held at 814 N. Van Ness Ave., Fresno 93728. People who will be attending are asked to R.S.V.P. to Santos Garcia at [santos@myunionworks.com](mailto:santos@myunionworks.com) or by calling (559)708-8484. The event is sponsored by Communities For A New California Education Fund – Valley Forward. Training, materials, breakfast and lunch will be provided. Chair Bonner stated that at least 5 volunteers will be needed/

Union Park and Workers Memorial Foundation Third Annual Labor BBQ (May 19): Jerry Hunsucker and Jim Avalos spoke to the group regarding this event. They explained that the event is not only to memorialize Union Brothers and Sisters who have passed away on the job but to interact and get to know Union Brother and Sisters as well as their families from other locals. Stated there will be some new attractions this year --- water slides for all ages, the train will be ADA accessible, the museum will only be open from 2:00P.M. – 3:00 P.M., the mounted patrol will be there as well as an investigative dog. The menu will be: tri-tip, pilaf, salad, green beans, rolls and drinks. For children through age 12 the menu will be hot dogs, chips and drinks. Jennifer made a motion to purchase 25 tickets at \$10 apiece for a total of \$250 to be taken from the donation line. Seconded by Francis Coronado. Discussion: Treasurer Lambaren stated that with the outstanding donation lines totaling \$2,750 there would be enough money left. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented. Tickets were provided to Chair Alysia Bonner with payment to be sent.

SEJ Summit: the consensus was to have the summit this year in Fresno as scheduled as it was not held last year. It was also a consensus to have it the traditional second Saturday in October, which would be October 13, 2018. It was agreed that a Planning Committee need to be formed and planning needs to be started. Lorenzo Lambaren and Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham agreed to be Co-Chairs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chair Lambaren stated, as per the End Of The Month Financial Report as of March 31, 2018 SEJ Committee has \$9,403 left.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budgeted Items: none

Forms: admin staff is working on sending the updated/current forms to all of the regions.

Sign IN Sheets: everyone is asked to turn in all sign-in sheets after the meeting/event. If needed, copies can be made.

Together We Rise: members continue to recommit/convert members/fee payers.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### Donation Request:

NAACP Santa Cruz Branch Freedom Fund Gala (FFG) at the Dream Inn from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 on April 21, 2018: Matt Nathanson VP Region 2 asked for any size donation to the Event. VP Nathanson was not available to address the request nor was SEJ Chair Bonner Able to reach him by phone or text. On the back side of the flyer it listed the various sponsors/donation sizes. On the \$500 Donation-Partner Sponsor it did not list if any tickets were provided. The consensus was to table until the next meeting or Chair Bonner would try and reach him and then, if needed send an e-mail.

Holy Cross Women's Day Shelter Annual Diaper Drive (April 1, 2018 – April 30, 2018): Jennifer Jensen, Chair of the Women's Caucus explained the event and provided the back story. Francis Coronado made a motion to donate \$200 from the donation line towards the purchase of diapers, wipers and feminine hygiene products.

Seconded by Rachel Subega. Discussion: none. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented.

##### Caucus Reports:

###### AFRAM

Fresno: there were about 41 people who attended their Black History Month event on February 24, 2018. They are busy preparing for the Juneteenth celebration to held June 2, 2018 in the Unity Hall in Fresno. Members will be attending the Face-To Face Western Regional Conference Meeting April, 2018 in Los Angeles.

San Jose: preparing for College Day for African American High School Students going to San Jose State. The AFRAM – San Jose Caucus will also be preparing for an annual Student Recognition Day. This will be for students promoting up from 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and high school seniors. A bus is being rented to take members to visit Allensworth for Juneteenth.

###### APALA

Fresno: the Heritage Day Scholarship forms have been distributed. The deadline is the middle of April, 2018. The Heritage Day event is June 9, 2018. Retired SEIU Local 521 member will be the keynote speaker.

San Jose: March 3, 2018 members attended a follow up in Oakland to the API Summit. Four people will be attending the COPE dinner March 15, 2018.

###### LATINO

Fresno: will be participating in the Union Park 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual BBQ as previously mentioned. Five people have indicated they would like to attend the Latina Action Day May 23, 2018 in Sacramento. Several people plan on attending the César Chavez Event day in San Jose April 7, 2018. The caucus is also exploring way to volunteer at The Poverello House – a homeless shelter in Fresno. Next SEIU Challenge: Feeding The Homeless will be March 18, 2018.

San Jose: the caucus participated in the Mexica New Year in San Jose. Plans are being Finalized for the César Chavez celebration April 7, 2018.

RETIREES:

Fresno: no meeting held

San Jose: no report

RISE: no report

WOMEN'S:

Fresno: the caucus is currently working on the diaper drive as well as planning for Women's Equality Day Event August 18, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:41 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Jensen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Jensen  
SEJ Secretary