

**SEIU LOCAL 521**  
**SOCIAL ECONOMIC JUSTICE (SEJ) COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 14, 2016**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** the meeting was called to order by Chair Alysia Bonner at 6:00 P.M.
- 2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** everyone was welcomed by Chair Alysia Bonner.  
Those in attendance:
  - San Jose: Marilyn DeRouen and Ethel Jackson
  - Fresno: Alysia Bonner, Jennifer Jensen, Francis Coronado (staff), Bella Barela, Solomon Barela (guest), Sergio Garcia, Raquel Garcia (guest), Maria Luisa Gutierrez, Frank Gonzalez (guest – AIVA), Joy Hall Villareal, Cecilia Tatum, Darlynn Qualls, Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham, Lorenzo Lambaren, Lalo Acevedo (guest – AIVA), Rene Duran Diaz Alex Betancourt, 3 other guests from American Indian Veteran’s Association who did not Sign the sign-in sheet.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** the minutes from the prior meeting had not been printed. Approval tabled until April, 2016 meeting.
- 4. TREASURER’S REPORT:** Treasurer Lorenzo Lambaren reported as of January 31, 2016 there was a balance of \$6,587.37. Budget (Increase \$7,143.00): Treasurer Lambaren reported that due to some found money. This extra money was due to miscalculation of there is \$7,143. Different options were reviewed. Jennifer Jensen made a motion to divide \$7,000 between the seven different caucus that have been established – AFRAM – San Jose; AFRAM – Fresno; Latino – San Latino – Fresno; APALA – San Jose; APALA – Fresno, and Women’s Caucus. The balance of \$143 would go into the SEJ general budget. Seconded by Alex Betancourt. No discussion. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented.
- 5. OPEN FORUM:**
  - American Indian Veteran’s Association (AVIA): the group gave a presentation on what they do --- Including reaching out to veterans --- Native American and non-Native American – who have returned from service or are in the process of returning --- to educate them of services available.
  - Fresno Memorial Park: Jennifer Jensen gave a brief report on the dedication Saturday, April 30, 2016 of the Workers Memorial Wall at Union Park located at the Fresno Fairgrounds. There will also be a tri-tip dinner for \$10 per ticket for adults and \$5 for kids 10 and under.
  - SEJ ALL Caucus Summit: Arvelia Via Cooper Whigham agreed to chair the event. Lorenzo Lambaren, Cecilia Tatum and Alex Betancourt agreed to be on the committee. The date of October 8, 2016 was agreed as the date for the event.
  - Upcoming Events: Arvelia Via Cooper Whigham shared that the following events are upcoming: APALA History Month Event in Fresno May 7, 2016, AFRAM Junteenth, N.A.M.I, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.
  - Diversity Day: Arvelia Via Cooper Whigham had brought up for discussion of having Diversity Day at various worksites. Tabled for further discussion.
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
  - BUDGETED ITEM(S):** Chair Bonner reported there are no current budgeted items but the Labor Fest is coming soon. Chair Bonner stated that upcoming budgeted expenses are Reel Works, All Caucus Event and Western workers.
  - SEIU RACIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE:** Chair Bonner reported that the Local hopes to have a report by Kerry Jones at the April, 2016 meeting. This meeting will be via tile-conference and phone in to

meeting.

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

Donation Request(s):

Tutoring Supplies Expense: Arvelia Via Cooper-Whigham made a request for a monetary Donation to assist with expenses involved in a tutoring program for children in grades K-12 on behalf of Gavin Simmons. A packet was provided by Mr. Simmons which included the grant proposal outline for the tutoring program, demographics of students tested, report cards for various school districts in several counties throughout California, demographics of several characteristics and charts of educational attainment based on educational levels. There were several areas including whether a donation could be made to an organization that is not registered as a non-profit. The consensus was to table until next meeting.

First Annual Tri-County women's Empowerment Summit (Saturday, May 7, 2016): Jennifer Jensen made a donation request in an amount for sponsorship of the Empowerment Summit. The consensus was to table the request until the next meeting to see if any other of the caucuses would assist.

American Indian Veteran Association: Alex Betancourt made a donation request for a donation To AIVA to assist with the purchase of an educational/display teepee. Lorenzo Lambaren made a motion to donate \$200 to the AIVA towards the purchase of an educational/display teepee. Seconded by Jennifer Jensen. Discussion: Alex Betancourt wanted to amend the amount of donation to \$400. Chair Bonner explained that the maker of the motion is the only one that can amend any part of the motion. There were no changes in the motion. No further discussion. Vote taken. There were 2 abstentions. Motion passed.

KAPA Request: Marilyn DeRouen made a motion for \$500 to send 2 foster youth to camp through KAPA. Motion made by Alex Betancourt for a donation of \$500 to send 2 foster youth through KAPA to be taken from the donation budgeted line item. Seconded by .

Joy Hall-Villareal. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented.

Gilroy Family Center Request: Marilyn DeRouen made a donation request to donate in any Monetary amount to the Gilroy Family Center to purchase snacks for those who use the Center. Motion made by Jennifer Jensen to donate \$150 to the Gilroy Family Center to use to purchase snacks for those that use the center with donation amount to be taken from budgeted line item donations. Seconded by Bella Barela. No further discussion. Vote taken. Motion passed as presented. Taken from donation line

8. Caucus Reports: Jennifer Jensen made a suggestion to postpone the reports until next meeting due to time constraints. The consensus was to postpone until next meeting.
9. Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.