

Equity Advisory Committee (“EAC”)

Minutes from August 8, 2012 Meeting

Community members present:

Valerie Coleman, Rick Hauptman, Jane Henzerling, Barry Kendell, Stella Kim, Erin Le, Miguel Penn, Alex Randolph, Jamie Wagoner

Community members absent:

Angela Jenkins, Mollie Ring, Monali Seth

Call to Order approval of minutes

Jamie Wagoner stated that he was present at the June meeting. Jamie Wagoner received a fellowship to work with LGBT Seniors with Bay Legal. Erin Le stated the correct spelling of Belinda Reyes page 7 under the reentry and realignment subcommittee. Member Stella Kim requested that change of wording be made on page 8 second to last paragraph changed to, ‘does not feel like the needs of food is adequately addressed.’ A motion was made by member Alex Randolph and seconded by member Jane Henzerling.

Public comment on items not on the agenda

None

Commissioners and staff report

Commissioner Lee stated that they cancelled their second meeting in July because of summer recess and right now they are trying to work out a formal process to evaluate to give the executive director an annual evaluation.

Zoë thanked members for their patience on the website because we can't update the minutes and that the website is supposed to be getting redeveloped

Speaker Series

Zoë and EAC Member Jane Henzerling introduced the speakers from Educate our State program, Annie Bauccio-Moor and Nick Driver.

Annie Bauccio-Moore and Nick Driver jointly presented information about the history of Educate Our State, its campaigns and their programs. They detailed that they originally became involved in Educate Our State because of the experiences of their own children in the San Francisco Unified School District. They began discussing how state wide budget cuts are

impacting the experience in local schools. After working with a group of parents at the local level they decided they need to address the disappearing resources at the state level.

Furlough days and longer summers are creating huge gaps for kids. Educate Our State has advocates that all schools in California should be provided with an equitable set of resources, no matter which zip code you happen to be residing. They also believe that every child should have an equal opportunity for an outstanding education and future.

Educate Our State's platform is superior educators are absolutely essential. Thus, outcomes, and not just years of service, and providing teacher development and training are the core of that piece of what Educate Our State believes in to be the core platform around superior educators.

They also support logical, sufficient, and stable educational funding for all schools. Logical and fair funding that means kids that are at the bottom level of the achievement gap, typically African American and Latino and Asian Pacific Islanders, are funded at a higher level here by the state or by the district because they require more funding to educate them up to the same levels as some of our other kids.

Yes Yes for Education is also one of the key pieces of Educate Our State's platform. In the fall campaign, aside from the presidential election campaign, are a couple of propositions. Educate Our State supports both Proposition 30 and Proposition 38. In San Francisco Unified there used to have 181 school days and last year it was down to an all time low of 174. But they are putting back enough school days so that we will be one and a half days short of 179 and half schools days.

A final piece of Educate Our State's platform is engaging and stimulating instruction and curriculum. They maintain that a standard basic instruction that engages students, teaching skills that are necessary for the 21st century workplace and useful in timely student assessment.

Educate Our State started as a group of 20 parents organizing Funding Our Future in San Francisco to a San Francisco based but state wide organization with 40,000 parents. Now they have parents across the state that put together these campaigns.

Nick talked about one of the different campaigns or education issues that Educate Our State has done, including the "Let Us Vote" campaign and the "Wake up California" campaign. In the "Let Us Vote" campaign Educate Our State sent over 60,000 letters to the state legislator last year to allow a vote on the education budget.

Educate Our State also runs "Camp Educate" programs. The purpose of the organizing campaign was to help educate peoples about how to do the work of organizing because the

work of has shown that it's not enough just to have a website and to put out a couple public service announcements.

Questions from EAC Members

Well it sounds like your focusing most of the funding on public policies that are very important. Are you addressing any other issues facing the California education such as more towns involved in presentations?

Educate Our State also supports parent involvement in the education decisions and policies. They support simple, direct, clear laws and budget language so that parents can understand policies impacting their children.

Do you support candidates that support education?

They are opening a 501(c)(3) and circulating a "right know" with candidates questionnaire and they are talking to individual candidates and looking at their records finding out how they voted.

So as someone who was born and raised in Germany where education was always paid for by the government I am confused about why there is a disconnect here in this country between funding education and why these propositions are important and are not higher or even close to passing?

Educate Our State believes that education should be paid for by the government but they recognize budget shortfalls in the state.

I know that there is a lot of urgency around the funding initiative but can you speak a little bit more about the strategies that you implemented or discussing for future around the two other planks in the platform because I think those two are really something that can have a little more action in San Francisco specifically and certainly across the state and across the nation. I think that ideology there has some support there but then has that happened in practice? what kind of policy changes have changed and what kind of structural changes will need to be made to move forward on those to pieces?

Curriculum and the common core standards will be need to be changed. In addition, a freer ability for schools to be able to assess their teachers on other things besides years of service. allow all schools to have that ability to be flexible with their teaching core and to be able to

It sounds like a key component of your efforts are regarded to teachers and I was wondering what your relationship is locally with the teachers union and state wide as well?

Educate Our State remains in a very friendly location with labor on both levels.

So have you reached out to organizations in other counties?

Yes, these conversations are happening mainly in San Diego and Las Angeles county Pasadena, the Costa Costa County, Sacramento, Menlo Park ,South Bay and the North Bay and San Francisco..

As a consequence of taking this yes yes position on the two propositions are you guys basically in terms of your activism are you guys basically on your own because there is a large coalition of groups that have came together around 30and there is a smaller amount of groups that came together around 38 and there is not a positive feeling between the two so I was just wonder if you guys had another stand.

Not really. The biggest organization that has taken a yes yes position is the California's school Board Association. California PTA which is very strongly backing sort of co-sponsoring the prop 38 measure has taken a neutral position on 30 because they are putting so much of their own weight and power into 38 they kind of felt like they couldn't double endorse but they also are not against it.

The concern for the future economic success of the State of California is something that is really very serious. In the Bay Area here in San Francisco, we have all this high tech and all this opportunity we are not educating the people to work in these companies. We got to start because things are going to just start to go south.

Educate Our State asks for more accountability for schools and teachers at the same time asking for more funding each one. They also support an increase in transparency.

Zoë ended the Speaker Series by thanking the speakers for their time and passion on these issues.

Sub Committee updates

Zoë provided information on a University of San Francisco Education forum. And their request

that the EAC subcommittee assist them on education and outreach. Zoe indicated that she would meet with the Education Subcommittee after the meeting to discuss the project.

Silver Tsunami

Silver Tsunami subcommittee members Valerie Coleman and Stella Kim provided the following update:

The Silver Tsunami subcommittee presented a summary of surveys they conducted among service providers in San Francisco. The subcommittee reviewed a powerpoint presentation which is included with these minutes.

They began their presentation by reviewing the most pressing, unique challenges the senior population is facing in San Francisco, including economic security, income security, lack of adequate housing, homelessness, nutrition and food.

Valerie and Stella interviewed several individuals including Rachel Eborá, Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center of discussed the barrier senior serving agencies have to obtaining private funding. Marie Jobling of the Community Living Campaign stated that friends, families, neighbors, who traditionally provide support for seniors have seen an increase in their role due to funding cuts for senior services.

The subcommittee further presented on information on issues facing the senior population that more people should know. For example, 61% of all elders age 65+ do not have enough income to meet their most basic needs, as measured by the Elder Index. That's over 65,000 elders struggling to make ends meet in San Francisco County. Moreover, many seniors live alone and are socially isolated, despite living in such a densely populated city, which has a growing population of seniors. In addition, seniors are seeking employment and competing with younger works for jobs.

Valerie and Stella also provided that an overview of the projects they are considering, including coordinating programs, improving access to transportation and employment.

Zoë thanked Stella and Valerie for their presentations and pointed out that it would be great to shed light on the duplication of efforts within non profits and the city government

Reentry Subcommittee

Erin Le advised that the reentry committee is looking to create a survey, or complete our survey creation. They hope to be able to compile responses and do a presentation similar to Silver Tsunami. Their longer term goals is to create a curriculum to educate the community about reentry and realignment and about rehabilitation.

Since the last meeting, Angela and Erin met with Belinda Reyes who is a professor at SF State to talk about survey design. It seems like Professor Reyes is excited to help us make this even bigger than we thought. She is talking about grant writing and we will see what will become of this and we have a meeting with her next week. She suggested partnering with people with criminal justice backgrounds as well as literature reviews as well as focus groups. So along with our quantitative method we also have a qualitative method of our focus group could possibly provide in getting more stakeholders. Also, we are working on creating a panel for the spring. Aileen Hernandez and Angela are working on invitations for the panel. I think Angela spoke up to bring together people such as Angela Davis, Kamala Harris, Connie Rice and Michele Alexander to talk about the impact on communities of reentry. Also Wendy Still who is the chief of probation is confirmed to speak at the November meeting and she will be presenting on evidence based practices of successful rehabilitation.

Zoë thanked Erin for the updates and advised that she would be sure to include more discussion time in the agenda for future meetings.

Announcements

Zoë advised the commission meetings have been moved to 5:30 and are no longer at 4:30 pm. She strongly urged members to attend. She advised that Thursday's commission agenda would include presentations on the use of the word "illegal" when describing immigrants and a presentation to the bill that prohibited reparative therapy for LGBT youth.

She advised that the EAC would be called before the Commission to give updates before the end of the year. She indicated that it was important to start thinking long term on the issues that the subcommittee groups are working on and how the Commissioners can be helpful to the subcommittee work.

Commissioner Lee advised that Commission meetings are on every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month and start at 5:30.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:16 pm